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FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FC 1-52 January 22, 1952

FOREIGN MARKET NOTES--COTTON

Sweden to Increase Cotton Imports from the United States 1/
(Reported on November 5, 1951)

By Francis H. Whitaker
Marketing Specialist

Imports of cotton into Sweden this season are expected to total about 124,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) plus an unspecified amount to be purchased by the Government for stockpiling. Imports of 140,000 bales in 1950-51 included only about 52,000 bales from the United States. In 1949-50, the totals were 117,000 and 33,000 bales, respectively.

Purchases of United States cotton during the current season prior to October 1 totaled about 46,000 bales. Present plans indicate that 100 million kronor ($20 million) will be allocated for the purchase of United States cotton in 1951-52, excluding Government purchases for stockpiling. About 70 million kronor ($14 million) were allocated before the end of October. Importers are expected to purchase United States cotton with the maximum quantities of dollar exchange available to them as prices of American type cotton from other sources are 15 to 25 cents a pound higher than those for United States cotton.

Shortage of dollar exchange is not a serious problem in Sweden this year and will not be a limiting factor in imports of United States cotton. In fact, the Swedish Government returned (in October 1951) about $11 million received from the 1950-51 ECA fund with a statement that it was no longer needed. Import restrictions, however, are being maintained to assist in balancing foreign exchange requirements. No request for an Export-Import Bank loan is anticipated.

1/ Preliminary report of a study of foreign market outlets and competition with United States cotton, conducted under the provisions of the Research and Marketing Act. Mr. Whitaker acknowledges the help given him by the staff of the United States Embassy at Stockholm.

Consumption of cotton in 1951-52 is expected to be about equal to the 1950-51 figure of 135,000 bales. There has been a definite upward trend in cotton consumption since the end of the last war, but the textile industry has never supplied the entire cotton goods needs of the country. Substantial quantities of yarns and goods are still imported each year. During 1950 the industry produced about 88 percent of the cotton yarn consumed in Sweden and 74 percent of the cotton goods. Comparable statistics for the 1936-38 period are 88 percent and 79 percent, respectively. Piece-goods production has increased by 16 percent since the 1936-38 period, but apparently consumption rose more than 16 percent (from 22,050 short tons to 25,600 short tons) because the ratio of production to consumption was slightly lower in 1950 than in the 3-year period.

Stocks of cotton on hand on August 1, 1951 were reported at 55,000 bales including 11,500 bales of United States cotton but excluding Government-owned stocks (size not reported) of any growth. It is generally understood that the Government intends to increase its stockpile during the current season. According to private estimates, total stocks in Sweden on August 1, 1951 were sufficient for 7 months mill requirements; this would indicate a Government stockpile at that time of 20,000 to 25,000 bales.

Table 1.-Sweden: Cotton supply and distribution 1951-52 1/

	United States	Other	Total
	Bales 2/	Bales 2/	Bales 2/
Supply:			
Stocks August 1, 1951...	11,000	44,000	55,000
Import plans...........	3/101,000	23,000	124,000
Total...............	112,000	67,000	179,000
Distribution:			
Consumption (est.)......	-	-	138,000
Stocks July 31, 1952(est)	-	-	1/ 41,000
Total............	-	-	179,000

1/ Stocks of cotton held by the Government and imports for stockpiling are excluded.

2/ Bales of 500 pounds gross.

3/ Prior to October 1, 1951, 45,929 bales had already been purchased. Present plans call for 100 million kronor (20 million dollars) to be allocated for United States cotton; 70 million kronor have already been allocated. This excludes the amount which will be spent for Government stockpiling.

Source: Trade firms in Sweden.

Table 2.-Sweden: Cotton imports and consumption, 1949-50 and 1950-51

	United States	Other	Total
	Bales 1/	Bales 1/	Bales 1/
Imports:			
1950-51	52,000	88,000	140,000
1949-50	33,000	84,000	117,000
Consumption:			
1950-51	60,000	75,000	135,000
1949-50	17,000	111,000	128,000

1/ Bales of 500 pounds gross.

Source: Trade firms in Sweden

In considering the supply of all raw fiber supplies available to mills it is found that cotton made up 62 percent of the total during the period from 1936 to 1938 but accounted for only 54 percent in 1950. As indicated in table 3, however, it may be seen that supplies of cotton increased between 1936-38 and 1950, but the increase in supplies of other fibers was greater than that of cotton.

Table 3.-Sweden: Supply of cotton and other fibers, 1936-38 and 1950

Fiber	1936-38		1950	
	Metric tons	Bales 1/	Metric tons	Bales 1/
Cotton	25,200	116,000	31,500	145,000
Other	15,200	70,000	26,900	123,000
Total	40,400	186,000	58,400	268,000
	Percent		Percent	
Cotton as percentage of total	62		54	

1/ Bales of 500 pounds gross.

Source: Trade firms in Sweden.

Rayon staple accounted for the greater part of the increase in other fibers. It rose from 3,825,000 pounds in 1938 to 26,000,000 pounds in 1950. In 1951 it is expected to reach 30,000,000 pounds. The short supply and high price of cotton last year was a great incentive to rayon production, especially since Sweden has a large supply of wood pulp. Each year Sweden is increasing its capacity to produce rayon. However, the price of rayon staple on November 1, 1951 was only about 2 cents per pound cheaper than United States cotton c.i.f. Swedish ports. This difference may be greater now as a result of cotton price increases since that date.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FC 2-52 January 24, 1952

FOREIGN MARKET NOTES--COTTON

Finland's Cotton Supply Situation 1/
(Reported November 5, 1951)

By Francis H. Whitaker
Marketing Specialist

Imports of cotton into Finland in 1951-52 are expected to total about 64,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) including 24,000 bales from the United States. Imports of 44,000 bales in 1950-51 included only 2,000 from the United States. The figures for 1949-50 were 43,000 and 6,000 bales respectively.

Orders had been placed before the end of October for nearly 23,000 bales of United States cotton with allocation of dollar exchange to cover the purchases. No difficulty is expected in securing the necessary authorization for exchange for additional 1,000 bales. About 35 percent of the 40,000 bales to be imported from other sources were purchased in Brazil before the end of October. Most of the remainder may be obtained from Turkey and Pakistan which supplied 8,000 and 19,000 bales, respectively, in 1950-51. Imports from other sources last year were 10,000 bales from Brazil, 3,000 from Mexico, and 2,000 from Egypt.

Import needs are estimated at 64,000 bales for 1951-52 in order to meet planned consumption of 60,000 bales and to increase end-season stocks to 13,000 bales, sufficient for nearly 3 months' mill requirements. Stocks on hand August 1, 1951 were estimated at only 9,000 bales. Consumption of 60,000 bales would represent a significant increase over the 53,000 bales consumed last year and 49,000 in 1949-50.

1/ Part of a continuing study of foreign market outlets and competition with United States cotton, conducted under the provisions of the Research and Marketing act. Mr. Whitaker acknowledges the assistance received from Elmer Reese, Agricultural Attache for Sweden and Finland, American Embassy, Stockholm, Sweden.

Imports of United States cotton would be much higher than those already planned this year except for the limitations of available dollar exchange. Aside from the current lower prices of United States cotton in relation to those for comparable foreign growths, Finnish trade sources have stated their preference for United States cotton because of higher quality and lower spinning waste in relation to most competitive growths. During the 5 years prior to 1940, imports of United States cotton represented 75 to 90 percent of total cotton imports. Imports of nearly all of the remainder from Brazil, Turkey, Pakistan, and Mexico in recent years indicates that the industry is still operating almost entirely on American type cotton.

The seven cotton spinning mills and six weaving mills in the country satisfy about three-fourths of the cotton textile needs, the balance being imported. All the mills do both spinning and weaving and three of them have printing facilities.

Finland has in operation 392,188 spindles and 8,076 looms. This compares with 328,347 and 7,882 respectively in 1949.

Table 1. - Finland: Cotton supply and distribution, 1951-52 1/

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

	United States	Other	Total
Supply			
Stocks August 1, 1951 . . .	2/	9,000	9,000
Import plans	24,000	40,000	64,000
Total	24,000	49,000	73,000
Distribution			
Consumption	-	-	60,000
Stocks July 31, 1952 . . .	-	-	13,000
Total.	-	-	73,000

1/ Estimated
2/ Less than 500 bales

Source: Compiled from official and trade sources.

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FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FC-3-52 January 28, 1952

WORLD COTTON PRODUCTION BELOW EARLY ESTIMATES

World cotton production in 1951-52 is now expected to be about 34.5 million bales (of 500 pounds gross) from 84.6 million acres, compared with indications of 35.3 million bales from 82.0 million acres published by this Office in October 1951. Such a production would, however, be 6.8 million bales or 24 percent larger than the revised estimate of 27.7 million bales for 1950-51, and the second largest on record. Current anticipations are based on midharvest reports from Northern Hemisphere countries and preliminary reports on the crops in the Southern Hemisphere where picking of the 1951-52 crops will not begin until February or March.

The increase of 6.8 million bales over the world production in 1950-51 is attributed to increases of 5.3 million in the United States, about 1.1 million in China, the Soviet Union, and Eastern Europe, and less than 400,000 bales in other foreign countries as a group. Any increases in China and the Soviet Union presumably will be absorbed largely by mills within those countries with little influence on world trade beyond some possible reduction in normal imports from other countries. Figures for 1951-52 production in China and the Soviet Union have been revised upward by 1.1 million bales since last October.

The countries producing Egyptian-type cotton, mainly Egypt, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, and Peru, reported decreases in production in 1951-52 totaling about 325,000 bales, due largely to insufficient water for irrigation in Egypt and the Sudan. Production of Asiatic short staples in India, Pakistan, and Burma was nearly 300,000 bales or 7 percent higher than in the previous year. Weather and growing conditions in these countries were somewhat less favorable than they were a year ago resulting in slightly lower yields per acre from an area 13 percent larger than a year ago.

Cotton in the remaining foreign countries (excluding China and the Soviet Union) is comprised almost entirely of American-Upland varieties. The production increase in these countries as a whole amounted to less than 400,000 bales despite an acreage increase of nearly 4,000,000 acres. The principal causes for poor yields were severe drought in Mexico, drought and heavy losses to insects (mostly caterpillars) in North Brazil, early drought followed by excessive rainfall and hailstorms in South Brazil, excessive rainfall in British East Africa, heavy insect damage and lack of insecticides, equipment and experience in Syria, and losses from insects and plant diseases in Turkey.

Continent and country	Acreage					Production 2/				
	Year beginning August 1					Year beginning August 1				
	Averages					Averages				
	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950 3/	1951 3/	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950 3/	1951 3/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
NORTH AMERICA										
El Salvador	9	23	43	52	78	5	12	30	27	35
Guatemala	-	7	8	6	17	2	3	5	4	8
Mexico	725	855	1,446	1,804	2,231	334	425	937	1,120	1,300
Nicaragua	9	7	37	48	70	5	5	21	20	30
United States	27,788	21,985	27,439	17,843	26,698	13,149	11,957	16,128	10,012	15,290
British West Indies	20	20	18	-	-	5	5	5	-	-
Haiti	-	-	40	25	-	22	12	8	4	-
Total 4/	28,642	22,953	29,044	19,811	29,177	13,523	12,421	17,137	11,195	16,682
EUROPE										
Bulgaria 5/	85	61	-	-	-	35	17	-	-	-
Greece	168	101	141	191	212	76	27	72	117	126
Italy	56	106	43	56	42	21	27	9	14	13
Rumania 5/	8	63	-	-	-	2	11	-	-	-
Spain	46	96	135	-	-	10	17	14	15	11
Yugoslavia	8	15	104	64	44	3	4	8	7	6
Total 4/	372	443	634	721	709	147	103	153	201	231
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	5,087	3,911	4,550	5,600	-	3,430	2,080	2,700	-	-
ASIA										
Cyprus	11	6	6	13	11	3	1	2	3	3
Iran	453	384	247	321	371	171	105	96	129	124
Iraq	53	73	24	100	125	11	10	9	38	33
Syria	85	48	99	193	450	28	15	61	161	176
Turkey	667	736	804	1,100	1,586	249	241	445	562	735
Afghanistan	-	-	-	-	-	49	23	20	34	-
Burma	428	364	183	194	218	97	80	35	35	40
China (incl. Manchuria)	7,038	5,849	5,300	7,650	-	2,855	2,012	1,700	2,500	3,100
French Indochina	36	-	-	-	-	6	7	1	1	-
Japan	2	-	12	-	-	1	1	3	6	-
India	6/ 24,204	6/ 20,518	12,173	13,859	15,700	6/ 5,348	6/ 4,853	2,350	2,650	2,800
Korea 7/	564	776	330	-	361	198	196	130	90	120
Indonesia	27	24	-	-	-	9	10	5	3	-
Pakistan	6/	6/	2,862	2,800	3,070	6/	6/	1,000	1,227	1,335
Philippine Islands	5	15	3	3	3	1	3	1	1	1
Siam	16	80	82	86	-	7	29	20	22	-
Total 4/	33,805	29,100	22,291	26,786	34,275	9,038	7,593	5,883	7,471	8,549

SOUTH AMERICA										
Argentina	770	826	1,141	1,142	1,450	289	398	643	460	550
Brazil	5,562	5,812	4,500	4,700	4,500	1,956	2,169	1,300	1,500	1,400
Colombia	98	99	–	103	–	23	22	40	34	45
Ecuador	40	38	–	–	–	13	9	18	18	18
Paraguay	111	116	161	139	160	40	42	60	49	55
Peru	428	353	380	383	383	379	311	350	370	370
Venezuela	50	53	–	–	42	11	15	6	5	18
Total 4/	7,060	7,299	6,415	6,550	6,738	2,711	2,966	2,418	2,437	2,457
AFRICA AND OCEANIA										
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	439	363	430	539	540	248	253	305	436	286
Belgian Congo	874	923	750	815	791	172	182	220	197	–
Kenya	–	–	50	58	55	13	21	8	11	10
Nyasaland	84	56	–	–	–	12	7	5	4	5
Tanganyika	–	–	–	–	–	50	45	40	46	36
Uganda	1,477	1,152	1,629	1,550	1,450	281	198	283	300	240
Canary Islands	–	–	2	5	–	–	–	1	4	–
Egypt	1,821	1,162	1,756	2,050	2,055	1,893	1,243	1,796	1,754	1,579
French Equatorial Africa	390	583	600	600	–	41	87	120	93	115
French North Africa	1	5	5	10	30	8/	2	3	5	14
French West Africa	–	–	–	–	–	28	20	22	25	25
Mozambique	–	497	644	700	–	9/ 33	93	83	120	–
Nigeria	–	–	–	–	–	36	30	60	75	85
Angola	73	–	102	110	–	13	24	28	30	30
Southern Rhodesia	2	5	10	–	–	8/	1	4	5	5
Union of South Africa	–	–	32	40	–	2	1	6	11	15
Australia	53	35	3	6	8	11	7	1	1	2
Total 4/	6,176	5,642	6,686	7,302	7,231	2,840	2,219	2,989	3,126	2,781
World total 4/	81,142	69,348	69,620	66,770	84,630	31,689	27,382	31,280	27,730	34,500

1/ Production in bales of 478 pounds net prior to 1946 and 480 pounds thereafter. 2/ Years shown refer to crop years in which major portion of crop was harvested. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Includes estimates for minor-producing countries not listed above, and allowances for other figures not available. 5/ Figures for 1943 to date are not comparable with prewar figures because of boundary changes. 6/ Pakistan included with India. 7/ South Korea only, after 1941. 8/ Less than 500. 9/ Exports.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics, reports of United States Foreign Service officers and results of office research.

The exceptionally favorable prices received in 1950-51 by cotton farmers in all foreign-producing countries were reflected in large acreage increases in 1951 in practically all countries that produce cotton. Available statistics on world cotton acreage are too incomplete to afford an accurate gauge of the increase in 1951 but it appears that the world total probably was increased by approximately 27 percent. However, weather conditions were unfavorable and insect infestation was greater than usual in many of the producing countries. As a result, anticipations of foreign production (excluding China and the Soviet Union) in 1951-52 have been reduced by a total of nearly 1.0 million bales from the figures reported early in the season.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

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OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FC 4-52 March 24, 1952

FOREIGN MARKET NOTES--COTTON

Spain's Cotton Supply Situation for the Crop Year 1951-52 1/

By Francis H. Whitaker
Marketing Specialist

The cotton textile industry is very important to the economy of Spain and it should be given every assistance possible to grow and develop. The industry employs about 175,000 people and is located primarily in the Catalonia area where 10 percent of the population resides. Spain, as is the case with other Western European countries, is dependent almost entirely on outside sources for its raw cotton.

Cotton textiles were the major export item in 1950, accounting for 18 percent of the total value of all Spanish exports. In 1949 they accounted for 14 percent and ranked third; in 1948 they were second. During the 5-year prerevoultion period (1931-35) when cotton consumption averaged about 420,000 bales, cotton textiles accounted for only about 4 percent of the total value of exports as most of the textile production was utilized locally. Consumption of cotton in 1949-50 and 1950-51 amounted to only 265,000 and 242,000 bales respectively. Consequently, there is a large pent-up demand in Spain for cotton merchandise, especially utility type goods.

During the 2 years prior to the 1951-52 crop year Spain underwent a severe drought, the effects of which were felt throughout the entire Spanish economy. Food production was low and approximately $70 million went out of the country during these years to pay for soybean oil, wheat, and other much needed foods. In addition, a large segment of the people had little buying power because of the general crop failures. But Spain has now produced one good crop and has another good one on the way so that it will no longer be necessary to use most of the available dollar exchange for food imports.

1/ Part of a continuing study of foreign market outlets and competition with United States cotton, conducted under the provisions of the Research and Marketing Act. Mr. Whitaker acknowledges the help of the staff of the American Embassy at Madrid, the American Consulate at Barcelona, and members of the industry in Spain.

The domestic takings of cotton goods would be very heavy during the several years if the economy of the country could be built up sufficiently to permit a better standard of living, and if sufficient raw cotton supplies are available at world prices. By reason of dollar shortage, combined with shortages of United States cotton, Spain has been unable to obtain adequate amounts of cotton and has been forced in recent years to obtain cotton through costly trade and exchange deals. In numerous instances, by the time cotton reached the mill it cost the spinner from two to three times the world price. The mills have been operating on very short supplies for several years. As a rule,a mill seldom has a month's supply of raw cotton on hand. Under such circumstances, considerable black market transactions can be expected. Small mills are required by law to pay 60 percent of their normal payroll even when they are not operating. Thus, when faced with a shortage of cotton, the mills have to buy cotton almost without regard to cost in order to continue operations. As a result, the finished products have to be sold on the domestic market at relatively high prices.

Spain now has an opportunity to take steps to reestablish a more normal production of cotton textiles, since the availability of United States cotton is unrestricted; soybean oil does not have to be purchased from the United States, the need for wheat from the dollar area is reduced considerably, and outside financial assistance is available.

Cotton consumption in Spain for the first 4 months of the 1951-52 crop year totaled about 98,000 bales. At this rate consumption for the season will total nearly 300,000 bales. Consumption could easily reach this level if sufficient quantities of cotton are available to meet operating requirements and to provide adequate working stocks. A supply of 375,000 bales is needed to meet a consumption requirement of 300,000 bales and to provide working stocks for 3 months. On August 1, 1951, Spain had on hand only 16,000 bales (excluding free port stocks), and domestic production amount to only 11,000 bales. Therefore, Spain needs to import during this season about 348,000 bales; all but 65,000 bales of this amount should be United States cotton. Between August 1, 1951 and January 1, 1952 about 90,000 bales had arrived from the United States and about 48,000 bales from other countries. It is reported that 37,000 bales of United States cotton are still to arrive from purchases made earlier in the season to be paid for through textile exports and sterling-to-dollar coversions in European free markets. About 75,000 bales of United States cotton will be available through purchases with funds from recent loans of $12 million from the Export/Import Bank and $5 million from the Chase National Bank of New York. Arrangements have been made for the importation of about 18,000 bales of non-United States growths. This leaves about 80,000 bales to be financed and purchased with funds not yet provided if Spain is to consume the desired 300,000 bales and maintain sufficient working stocks to stamp out black market transactions. To accomplish this, Spain apparently will need another loan later in the season or assistance from Mutual Security Agency funds.

The loans for cotton from the United States are underwritten by the Bank of Spain and the Spanish Government , and are expected to be liquidated out of Spanish exports to the United States and other hard currency countries.

Spanish exports to the United States have been progressively increasing - reaching in 1950 a total value of $52,174,000. In the first six months of 1951, they totalled $39,700,000 as against $21,600,000 for the same period in 1950. It is estimated by officials of the Spanish Government that Spain's exports to the United States for all of 1951 will total between $70 million and $75 million. This does not take into account dollar earnings from intangibles - tourist travel, ocean shipping, etc., which will also be available for the repayment of the credit; nor does it take into account exports to other countries in the dollar area, which will also be available.

There are 222 spinning mills in Spain. Somewhat less than 200 mills are located in the Province of Barcelona; the remainder are scattered throughout the country, largely in the south.

The total number of spindles in Spain as of August 1950 was reported at about 2,412,400, and there were about 80,150 looms. A breakdown of these totals is given below:

Spindles used in ring spinning frames	1,830,600
Spindles used in self-acting mules	199,100
Spindles used in doubling frames	317,700
Spindles used for special purposes	65,000
Total spindles	2,412,400

Hand looms	220
Special type looms	630
28 inch looms	54,500
28-41 inch looms	12,000
41-51 inch looms	7,200
Over 51 inch looms	5,600
Total looms	80,150

According to preliminary estimates, about 39 percent of the spindles are 1 to 8 years old, 28 percent are from 8 to 25 years old, and about 33 percent are over 25 years old.

Spain has cheap labor and power, and if it could modernize its textile mills and maintain adequate working stocks a half million bale cotton textile industry could be built up. No other country in Europe has a better possibility than Spain for such a percentage increase in cotton textile production.

It is felt that Spain should gear its textile industry to go agressively after foreign markets and also to provide adequate supplies of utility goods for the home market at reasonable prices. To carry out this plan, manufacturers would need to install 36-inch looms instead of the present 28-inch equipment. At present 68 percent of the looms are shorter than 28 inches, 15 percent are from 28 to 41 inches, 9 percent from 41 to 51 inches, and 7 percent are over 51 inches.

Spain also needs sanforizing equipment, printing equipment that will carry a large number of colors, combers and gassers, spindles, and ring equipment to manufacture corduroys and other items and finish them properly.

The Spanish Consorcio de Industriales Textiles Algodoneros is now making a survey to determine what the textile industry needs in the way of modernization to place it in a full competitive position with textiles from other countries. It has been estimated by some that outside assistance of about $5 million is needed. However, much of the needed equipment can be manufactured in Spain or purchased in other European countries where dollar exchange is not required.

Table 1.--Spain: Cotton supply and distribution forecast for 1951-52
(In bales of 500 pounds gross weight)

Item	Source of supply		
	United States	Others	Total
Supply			
Stocks August 1, 1951 1/	4,500	11,700	16,200
Domestic production	-	11,000	11,000
Imports, August-September	2/27,800	10,300	38,100
Imports, October-November	3/40,600	4/17,100	57,700
Stocks in free port Jan. 1, 1952	3/ 6,100	4/ 8,400	14,500
In process of clearance	3/ 4,500	4/11,600	16,100
Recent arrivals	3/11,400	-	11,400
Total supply Aug. 1, 1951 to Jan. 1, 1952	94,900	70,100	165,000
Reported purchases to arrive	3/36,600	5/18,000	54,600
Additional purchases planned	6/75,000	-	75,000
Additional needs not coverable with funds on hand	80,400	-	80,400
Total available or needed 7/	286,900	88,100	375,000
Distribution			
Anticipated consumption	-	-	300,000
Desired stocks for July 31, 1952	-	-	75,000

Source: Compiled from official and trade sources.

1/ Excludes free port stocks.
2/ Mostly financed out of earlier Export/Import loan.
3/ Shipments financed through textile exports and sterling-to-dollar conversions in European free markets.
4/ Purchased almost entirely with sterling.
5/ There is some question whether all of such cotton will be received.
6/ To be financed out of recent Export/Import loan of $12 million and Chase National Bank loan of $5 million.
7/ Needed for consumption of 300,000 bales and end-season stocks equal to 3 months' requirements.

Table 2.--Spain: Cotton imports and consumption, 1948-49 to 1950-51
(In bales of 500 pounds gross)

Year beginning August 1	Country of origin		
	United States	Others	Total
	Bales	Bales	Bales
Imports			
1948-49	33,000	341,000	374,000
1949-50	73,000	180,000	253,000
1950-51	87,000	156,000	243,000
Consumption			
1948-49	-	-	425,000
1949-50	74,000	191,000	265,000
1950-51	85,000	157,000	242,000

Compiled from official sources.

Table 3.--Spain: Consumption and imports of cotton from major countries of origin, in bales of 500 pounds gross weight, calendar years 1934 to 1948 and crop years 1948-49 to 1950-51

Calendar year	Domestic raw cotton production 1/	Consumption	Imports					
			United States	Brazil	Egypt	India	All others	Total
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
1934----------	8.3	435	298	0	82	59	18	457
1935----------	11.7	363	255	0	109	50	33	447
1936----------	9.0	82	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	2/
1937----------	11.0	152	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	2/
1938----------	10.0	140	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	2/
1939----------	6.4	2/	32	----------	5	3	18	58
1940----------	6.9	112	245	----------	23	5	54	327
1941----------	13.5	266	0	----------	26	0	205	231
1942----------	19.0	395	0	194	0	3	94	291
1943----------	21.4	2/	182	137	0	0	70	389
1944----------	25.8	445	214	32	14	0	110	370
1945----------	7.8	351	335	92	5	29	48	509
1946----------	22.8	324	113	132	7	24	33	309
1947----------	14.0	333	3	114	35	100	0	252
1948-49--------	30.5	1/ 425	29	236	17	57	35	1/ 374
1949-50--------	14.4	1/ 265	3/ 99	101	16	20	17	1/ 253
1950-51--------	15.0	1/ 242	3/ 107	17	36	13	70	1/ 243

Source: "Estadistica del Comercio Exterior de Espana."

1/ Crop year.
2/ Not available. Civil War period.
3/ Apparently includes Mexican cotton transhipped through the United States.

Table 4.--Spain: Cotton supply and distribution, 1949-50 and 1950-51
(In thousand bales of 500 pounds gross weight)

Item	1950-51			1949-50		
	United States	All Others	total	United States	All Others	total
Supply						
Stocks on August 1	2	3	5	4	6	10
Imports	87	156	243	73	180	253
Domestic ginnings	-	10	10	-	12	12
Total supply	89	169	258	77	198	275
Distribution						
Consumption	85	157	242	74	191	265
Reexports	-	-	-	-	-	-
Destroyed	-	-	-	1	4	5
Stocks on July 31	4	12	16	2	3	5
Total distribution	89	169	258	77	198	275

Compiled from official and trade sources.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FC 5-52 March 28, 1952

FOREIGN MARKET NOTES--COTTON

Cotton Situation in Norway 1/

by Francis H. Whitaker
Marketing Specialist

Norway's regular imports are expected to be 25,000 bales 2/ of cotton during the 1951-52 cotton season, of which all but 2,000 bales will be United States growths. The non-United States cotton will come mostly from India and Egypt. Contracts have already been made for about 14,000 bales and it is expected that the remaining needs will be purchased at an early date. The mills expect consumption this year to reach about 23,000 bales and want a carry-over on August 1, 1952, of about 11,000 bales. To reach this level it would be necessary to import a total of 29,000 bales since the carry-over on August 1, 1951, was only 6,000 bales. In all probability Norway will endeavor to do some stockpiling of cotton this season. The mills usually depend mostly on United States cotton.

All of the cotton which comes into Norway is imported by the spinners who must receive an import license from Norway's Department of Commerce. If the license is granted this means the foreign exchange will be made available. Most of the cotton imported from the United States is paid for with free dollars. From April 1948 through September 30, 1951, only 10,000 bales of United States cotton were financed by ECA dollars. Total cotton imports for the past three cotton seasons have amounted to about 60,000 bales of which about 49,000 bales came from the United States. Norway earns her dollars mostly through the sale of pulp, fish and metals, and through operations of the merchant marine. The import-export gap has not been closed, but it is nearly so .

1/ Preliminary report of a study of foreign market outlets and competition with United States cotton, conducted under the provisions of the Research and Marketing Act. Mr. Whitaker acknowledges the help given him by the staff of the United States Embassy at Oslo.

2/ Bales of 500 pounds gross weight.

Despite the fact that cotton textiles are still rationed in Norway, raw cotton consumption has shown an increase each successive year since the war. During the crop year 1946-47 consumption was about 15,000 bales. It increased to 16,000 bales in 1947-48, 17,000 bales in 1948-49, 19,900 bales in 1949-50, and 20,400 bales in 1950-51.

Norway has 5 spinning mills and 20 weaving mills. There are about 93,000 spindles and about 3,600 looms. These numbers have been on the increase in recent years. At the end of 1949 there were 74,880 spindles and 3,450 looms. During 1950 Norway produced only 33.7 percent of the cotton yarns needed and about 48.6 percent of its cotton piece goods. In addition Norway produces about 86 percent of its net supply of wool piece goods and about 30 percent of its artificial fiber goods. However, since 1938 production of all materials has increased. Production of wool materials has increased 41 percent, cotton 25 percent, and artificial fiber materials 162 percent. During both 1949 and 1950, cotton accounted for about 57 percent of the total production of materials, wool about 34 percent, and artificial fibers most of the remainder. Prior to the war (1938) comparable percentages were: cotton 62 percent, wool 33 percent, and artificial fibers 5 percent. Only recently has Norway been able to perform first-class conversion of materials. The textile industry of Norway has built a modern conversion plant which takes the gray goods and carries them through the various finishing processes, such as dyeing, printing, and sanforizing. This is a cooperative establishment which has been in operation about 6 months. The machinery came from Europe and the United States.

Although Norway has a long way to go to be self-sufficient in textile production, progress is being made and eventually self-sufficiency will be reached. To reach such a goal it will be necessary for Norway to re-equip the spinning and weaving mills with the most modern labor-saving machinery, standardize production, and train sufficient labor to maintain at least two shifts. At present, mill operations average slightly more than one shift daily.

Table 1.--Norway: Cotton Supply and Distribution Forecast, 1951-52

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Item	United States	Other	Total
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Stocks August 1	6	-	6
Import plans	1/ 23	2	25
Total	29	2	31
Consumption	-	-	23
Stocks July 31	-	-	8
Total	-	-	31

1/ To be financed mostly with free dollars. Of the cotton imports from the United States since April 1948, only about 20 percent have been financed with ECA dollars.

Source: Compiled from official and trade sources.

Table 2--Norway: Cotton Imports and Consumption, 1949-50 and 1950-51

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Item	United States	Other	Total
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Imports:			
1950-51	22	1	23
1949-50	12	3	15
Consumption:			
1950-51	18	2	20
1949-50	14	6	20

Source: Compiled from official sources.

Table 3. Norway: Cotton supply and distribution, 1950-51

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Origin	Supply			Distribution		
	Stocks Aug. 1	Imports	Total	Consumption	Stocks July 31	Total
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
United States	2	22	24	1/ 18	6	24
Brazil	1	2/	1	1	2/	1
Peru	2/	3/	3/	3/	2/	3/
Mexico	2/	1	1	1	2/	1
Others	2/	3/	3/	3/	2/	3/
Total	3	23	26	20	6	26

1/ Includes 753 bales consumed outside spinning mills.
2/ Negligible, if any.
3/ Less than 500 bales.

Source: Estimates derived from statistics collected by Dr. Einar Jensen, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Oslo, Norway.

Table 4.--Norway: Cotton supply and distribution, 1949-50

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Origin	Supply			Distribution		
	Stocks Aug. 1 1/	Imports	Total	Consumption	Stocks July 31	Total
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
United States	4	12	16	14	2	16
Brazil	1	1	2	1	1	2
Peru	1	2/	2	2	3/	2
Mexico	2	2/	2	2	3/	2
Others	2/	4/ 1	1	5/ 1	3/	1
Total	8	15	23	20	3	23

1/ Computed from consumption, end of season stocks, and imports.
2/ Less than 500 bales.
3/ Negligible, if any.
4/ Includes 556 bales from India.
5/ Most of this cotton was consumed outside of spinning mills. No records were obtainable of the country in which it was produced.

Source: Estimates derived from statistics collected by Dr. Einar Jensen, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Oslo, Norway.

Table 5.--Norway: Cotton consumption and imports of cotton from major countries of origin, 1934-50

(Bales of 500 pounds gross weight)

Calendar year	Consumption	Imports						
		United States	United Kingdom	Brazil	Germany	Sweden	All others	Total
	1,000 bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales
1934	11	10,980	429	0	475	113	218	12,215
1935	11	11,935	38	524	323	5	498	13,323
1936	11	15,269	61	1/	131	14	1,200	16,675
1937	12	14,878	24	254	22	1/	1,610	16,788
1938	11	13,786	32	195	59	1/	1,108	15,180
1939	----------	14,678	90	1,943	1/	1/	1,604	18,315
1940	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	2/
1941	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	2/
1942	----------	0	0	0	68	0	698	766
1943	----------	0	0	0	216	0	1,320	1,536
1944	----------	0	0	0	11	0	156	167
1945	3/ 13	6,652	1,041	14,981	0	2,122	954	25,750
1946	3/ 15	872	0	2,234	0	0	1,905	5,011
1947	3/ 16	3,282	43	7,240	1/	1/	4/ 3,744	3/ 14,309
1948	3/ 17	14,811	1/	2,604	1/	1/	4,239	3/ 21,654
1949	3/ 20	12,098	0	1,396	1/	1/	1,130	3/ 14,624
1950	3/ 20	22,400	0	0	0	0	1,153	3/ 23,254

1/ If any, included in "All others."
2/ Not available.
3/ Crop year.
4/ Peru 1,726; India 1,576.

Compiled from official sources

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FC 6-52 April 22, 1952

FOREIGN MARKET NOTES--COTTON

Spain--Transfer of Functions to the Centro Algodonero Nacional by Joint Order of the Ministries of Industry and Commerce [1]

by Francis H. Whitaker
Marketing Specialist

The Boletin Oficial del Estado on March 29, 1952 published a Joint Order of the Ministries of Industry and Commerce transferring certain functions from the Consorcio de Industriales Textiles Algodoneros (Consortium of Cotton Textile Manufacturers) to the Centro Algodoneros Nacional (National Cotton Center). A translation of the text of the order follows:

> "The Order of June 24, 1949 of the then Ministry of Industry and of Commerce, entrusted to the Consorcio de Industriales Textiles Algodoneros (Consortium of Cotton Textile Manufacturers) a number of functions regarding imports of raw cotton and exports of piece goods.
>
> "For the best performance of those functions, the Consorcio has from the beginning been using the services of the Centro Algondonero Nacional (National Cotton Center), which took charge of the shipments of cotton from the time of their embarkment, financed the purchase operation, collected cotton at the docks, placed it in warehouses, later distributed to quota holders, obtained payment, and paid the Consorcio. Actually, the Consorcio has been acting in this phase of the trading as an intermediary between the Administration (State) and the Centro Algodonero Nacional.

---

[1] Part of a continuing study of foreign market outlets and competition with United States cotton, conducted under the provisions of the Research and Marketing Act. Based on information supplied by James E. Brown, Jr., American Consul General, Barcelona.

> "It being appropriate to simplify transactions, it seems advisable to entrust to the Centro Algodonero Nacional directly the functions which in fact it has already undertaken satisfactorily during two years, without preventing from continuing under the Consorcio the remaining functions which in the past were given to the Consorcio.
>
> "Therefore, these Ministries of Industry and of Commerce have ordered:
>
> "First: The functions which the first, second and third articles of the Order of June 24, 1949 of the Ministries of Industry and of Commerce conferred on the Consorcio de Industriales Textiles Algodoneros are transferred to the Centro Algodonero Nacional which will deal directly with the Administration for these purposes.
>
> "Second: Therefore, the Centro Algodonero Nacional will take charge of that part of the domestic crop which by law is not left to the free disposition by growers of this fiber, and of the raw cotton coming from imports authorized through the concession of foreign exchange by the Institute Espanol de Moneda Extranjera. Regarding cotton imports granted directly to manufacturers-exporters, the Centro Algodonero Nacional will handle only the control of arrivals for statistical purposes.
>
> "Third: The Centro Algodonero Nacional will receive directly from the Ministries of Industry and of Commerce in due course instructions for the delivery of allotments for the needs of the Military Quartermaster and other preferential allotments, and also for deliveries which should be effected to compensate exports, be it to the Consorcio de Industriales Textiles Algodoneros or to the interested manufacturers-exporters themselves. It will also receive instructions for deliveries of normal quotas, approved by the General Technical Secretariat of Industry, for manufacturers.
>
> "Fourth: All prior provisions contrary to the present Order are automatically cancelled."

The Centro, the cotton exchange, is a Barcelona institution which, it is understood, was established some 70 years ago. The members are cotton merchants (comerciantes), brokers (corredores) and agents (agentes).

The Consorcio, which was established 8 years ago, has been concerned principally with matters pertaining to the distribution of raw cotton. Generally speaking, distribution was on the basis of a mill's capacity, but there may have been some variation. The Consorcio includes practically all of Spain's cotton spinners and weavers, i.e., the industrialists. A very few persons are members of both the Centro and the Consorcio, being both cotton merchants and industrialists. Both organizations are non-profit institutions.

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FC-7-52 May 19, 1952

WORLD COTTON PRODUCTION ESTIMATE REVISED SLIGHTLY UPWARD

World cotton production in 1951-52 is now estimated at about 34,765,000 bales (of 500 pounds) from 82,425,000 acres, representing an increase of 265,000 bales and a decrease of 2,205,000 acres when compared with the estimates published by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations on January 28, 1952. These figures, when compared with slightly revised estimates for 1950-51, represent increases of 25 percent or 7,025,000 bales in production and 23 percent or 15,600,000 acres in area.

The principal countries reporting upward revisions in production since January are India (200,000 bales), Brazil (100,000), Mexico (75,000), Argentina (50,000), and Uganda (48,000). Nearly half of the upward revisions were offset by downward revisions in other countries, principally the United States and Pakistan. Production increases in 1951 over the crops of 1950 were mainly in the United States, China, the Soviet Union, and India. Downward revisions of preliminary acreage figures for 1951-52 were accounted for mostly by China and India.

United States production of 15,130,000 bales was 51 percent higher than in 1950-51. Harvested area in 1951-52, estimated at 26,687,000 acres, represented an increase of 50 percent over that of a year ago. This increase was stimulated by the world shortage and high prices of cotton in 1950-51, removal of all limitations on acreage and production in 1951-52, the fixing of an official production goal at 16,000,000 bales, and improvement in growing conditions in much of the Cotton Belt over those of the previous season. Yield per acre averaged 271.7 pounds in 1951-52 compared with 269 pounds in the previous year.

Foreign production as a whole increased from 17.7 million bales in 1950-51 to 19.6 million in 1951-52 apparently in response to the world shortage and exceptionally high prices in 1950-51. Cotton acreage in foreign countries was increased by 14 percent in 1951 (estimate based on reports covering about 90 percent of the total), whereas production rose only 11 percent. Efforts to increase production were not completely successful because of severe drought in Mexico, North Brazil, the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, and parts of India, heavy insect infestation in North Brazil and in countries of the Near East, especially Syria, and a lack of adequate supplies of insecticides and experience both in the application of insecticides and in methods of cultivation. The continued need for maintaining cultivation of food crops at a desirable level limited cotton expansion, especially in Egypt, India, and Peru.

COTTON: Acreage and production in specified areas, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1949-51 1/

Continent and country	Acreage					Production 2/				
	Year beginning August 1					Year beginning August 1				
	Averages					Averages				
	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950 3/	1951 3/	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950 3/	1951 3/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
NORTH AMERICA										
El Salvador	9	23	43	47	74	5	12	30	27	38
Guatemala	-	7	8	6	17	2	3	5	4	8
Mexico	725	855	1,446	1,804	2,231	334	425	937	1,120	1,375
Nicaragua	9	7	37	43	70	5	5	21	22	40
United States	27,788	21,985	27,439	17,843	26,687	13,149	11,957	16,128	10,012	15,130
British West Indies	20	20	18	-	-	5	5	5	5	-
Haiti	-	-	40	25	-	22	12	8	5	8
Total 4/	28,642	22,953	29,044	19,801	29,162	13,523	12,421	17,137	11,198	16,610
EUROPE										
Bulgaria 5/	85	61	-	-	-	35	17	-	-	-
Greece	168	101	141	191	212	76	27	72	117	126
Italy	56	106	43	56	42	21	27	9	14	13
Rumania 5/	8	63	-	-	-	2	11	-	-	-
Spain	46	96	135	-	-	10	17	14	19	27
Yugoslavia	8	15	104	64	39	3	4	20	7	5
Total 4/	372	443	559	529	576	147	103	143	183	209
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	5,087	3,911	4,550	5,600	-	3,430	2,080	2,700	-	-
ASIA										
Cyprus	11	6	6	13	11	3	1	2	3	3
Iran	453	384	247	321	371	171	105	96	129	124
Iraq	53	73	24	100	110	11	10	9	38	38
Syria	85	48	99	193	450	28	15	61	163	207
Turkey	667	736	804	1,100	1,586	249	241	445	542	712
Afghanistan	-	-	-	-	-	49	23	20	28	41
Burma	428	364	183	193	220	97	80	35	35	35
China (incl. Manchuria)	7,038	5,849	5,300	7,650	10,100	2,855	2,012	1,700	2,430	3,100
French Indochina	36	-	-	-	-	6	7	1	1	-
Japan	2	-	12	13	15	1	1	3	5	-
India	6/ 24,204	6/ 20,518	12,173	13,859	15,250	6/ 5,348	6/ 4,853	2,350	2,695	3,000
Korea 7/	564	776	330	-	361	198	196	130	90	120
Indonesia	27	24	-	-	-	9	10	5	3	-
Pakistan	6/	6/	2,862	3,011	3,070	6/	6/	1,035	1,227	1,225
Philippine Islands	5	15	3	3	3	1	3	1	1	1
Thailand	16	80	82	86	77	7	29	20	22	21
Total 4/	33,805	29,100	22,291	26,972	31,900	9,038	7,593	5,921	7,422	8,650

SOUTH AMERICA										
Argentina	770	826	1,141	1,137 8/	1,359	289	398	643	482	600
Brazil	5,562	5,812	4,500	4,700	4,600	1,956	2,169	1,300	1,550	1,500
Colombia	98	99	-	103	-	23	22	40	34	45
Ecuador	40	38	-	-	-	13	9	18	18	11
Paraguay	111	116	161	154	184	40	42	60	49	65
Peru	428	353	380	383	427	379	311	350	380	400
Venezuela	50	53	-	-	42	11	15	6	5	18
Total 4/	7,060	7,299	6,415	6,560	6,790	2,711	2,966	2,418	2,519	2,640
AFRICA AND OCEANIA										
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	439	363	430	539	578	248	253	305	442	278
Belgian Congo	874	923	750	815	790	172	182	220	197	212
Kenya	-	-	50	58	65	13	21	8	11	11
Nyasaland	84	56	-	-	-	12	7	5	3	5
Tanganyika	-	-	-	-	-	50	45	40	37	36
Uganda	1,477	1,152	1,629	1,535	1,530	281	198	283	289	288
Canary Islands	-	-	1	3	5	-	-	1	2	4
Egypt	1,821	1,162	1,756	2,050	2,055	1,893	1,243	1,796	1,754	1,579
French Equatorial Africa	390	583	600	600	-	41	87	120	93	135
French North Africa	1	5	5	10	29	9/	2	3	5	14
French West Africa	-	-	-	-	-	28	20	22	40	-
Mozambique	-	497	644	700	680 10/	33	93	83	120	110
Nigeria	-	-	-	-	-	36	30	60	75	90
Angola	73	-	102	110	112	13	24	28	23	22
Southern Rhodesia	2	5	10	15	-	9/	1	4	6	-
Union of South Africa	-	-	32	40	-	2	1	6	11	10
Australia	53	35	3	4	3	11	7	1	1	1
Total 4/	6,176	5,642	6,681	7,363	7,497	2,840	2,219	2,991	3,118	2,856
World total 4/	81,142	69,348	69,540	66,825	82,425	31,689	27,382	31,310	27,740	34,765

1/ Production in bales of 478 pounds net prior to 1946 and 480 pounds thereafter. 2/ Years shown refer to crop years in which major portion of crop was harvested. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Includes estimates for minor-producing countries not listed above, and allowances for other figures not available. 5/ Figures for 1943 to date are not comparable with prewar figures because of boundary changes. 6/ Pakistan included with India. 7/ South Korea only, after 1941. 8/ Planted area. 9/ Less than 500. 10/ Exports.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics, reports of United States Foreign Service officers and results of office research.

Early reports from the principal foreign-producing countries state that the sharp decline in prices of foreign growths and losses to insects and unfavorable weather have discouraged growers in many countries from expanding cotton cultivation further in 1952 and caused financing institutions to reduce the amount of loans to cotton farmers this year. This is especially true in areas where the increase in acreage was sharp in 1951 such as in Mexico and the countries of the Near East.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FC-8-52 September 16, 1952

FOREIGN MARKET NOTES--COTTON

Cotton Situation in Syria [1]

by Francis H. Whitaker
Marketing Specialist

Cotton has been grown in Syria for many centuries, but only during the past few years has it come into prominence. In the early years the cotton planted was of the Baladi or Asiatic short-staple type, but about 20 years ago small quantities of American upland-type cotton seed were imported and planted. Now large quantities of certified United States seed are imported for planting each season, and about 95 percent of the cotton produced is from seed stock that originated in the United States. The American varieties were mostly Lone Star, Acala, Coker, and Lockett. It is not believed that any of the seed planted during 1952 was more than the third generation removed from the United States. Syria has no government cotton experiment station, but the Near East Foundation, which is doing excellent work in Syria with the rural population, is carrying on experimental work with cotton varieties.

Syria has a land area of about 45,590,000 acres of which about 15,650,000 (34.4 percent) are in private ownership, 3,940,000 acres (8.6 percent) in State land, and the remaining 26,000,000 acres, (57.0 percent) in desert which is unsuitable for exploitation. In 1948 about 11,300,000 acres were in cultivation.

In 1951 it is thought by some that about 2,400,000 acres were under some form of irrigation; about 1,500,000 acres being irrigated by gravity-flow, and the remainder with water pumped from streams or wells. (See appendix for a detailed report on the water developments in Syria).

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[1] This study, part of a continuing one of foreign market outlets and competition with United States cotton, was made by Mr. Whitaker under the Research and Marketing Act. He was accompanied by Mr. Read P. Dunn, Jr., Director of the Foreign Division of the National Cotton Council of America. Help is acknowledged from the staff of the American Legation and the Near East Relief at Damascus and members of the cotton trade and industry in Damascus and Aleppo, Syria. The Statistics presented by the author have been accepted by him as reliable.

Table 1.--Syria: Distribution of lands, by ownership, October 1951

Mohafazah (province)	Private ownership	State lands	Unexploitable desert land
	Acres	Acres	Acres
Damascus . .	2,320,380	60,540	2,444,333
Aleppo	4,519,825	1,143,579	-
Homs	1,184,123	1,779,119	7,328,472
Hama	1,144,036	665,193	-
Latakia . .	1,349,564	19,768	133,036
Euphrates .	1,251,910	4,942	12,348,474
Jezireh . .	1,967,904	236,228	3,274,075
Hauran . . .	1,010,886	26,934	-
As Suwaydah	914,270	-	457,135
Total .	15,662,898	3,936,303	25,985,525
Total land	45,584,726		

Source: Cadastral Survey Department, Ministry of Justice.

Table 2.--Syria: Arable land, 1937-48

Year	Uncultivated	Cultivated
	Acres	Acres
1937	7,048,854	4,712,639
1938	7,061,456	4,765,524
1939	7,056,514	4,704,979
1940	7,011,213	4,767,577
1941	8,170,344	4,846,417
1942	8,400,325	4,616,436
1943	8,339,662	4,681,794
1944	6,986,505	4,708,728
1945	8,371,662	5,592,891
1946	8,316,981	5,716,943
1947	9,093,166	5,976,620
1948	10,077,548	11,353,264

Source: 1937-45: Publications of Bureau of Agricultural Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture; 1946-48: Publications of Directorate of Statistics, Ministry of National Economy.

Table 3.- Syria: Breakdown of lands, by province, 1946

Mohafazah (province)	Arable			Pasture	Forest	Waste	Total
	Cultivated	Uncultivated	Total				
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
Damascus	348	719	1,067	341	101	465	1,974
Homs	371	67	438	2,483	151	3,534	6,606
Hama	1,233	99	1,332	-	316	156	1,804
Hauran	521	10	531	22	10	324	887
Euphrates ...	348	2,921	3,269	3,227	10	781	7,287
Jezireh	773	1,774	2,547	3,398	20	136	6,101
Aleppo	1,282	2,434	3,716	385	148	1,114	5,363
Latakia	628	126	754	104	247	450	1,555
As Suwaydah .	151	151	302	42	27	-	371
Total ..	5,655	8,301	13,956	10,002	1,030	1/ 6,960	1/ 31,948

1/ May exclude some desert area.

Source: Based on statistics compiled by American Legation at Damascus from official Syria reports.

Cotton Area and Production

It is difficult to secure comparable series of cotton statistics in Syria. Figures generally represent the best available approximations. Moreover, the data for the earlier years include Lebanon, with which there was an economic union prior to March 1949. During the 1920's and 1930's the combined average cotton yields for Syria and Lebanon ranged from 50 to 200 pounds per acre and production from 5,000 and 40,000 bales; the combined cotton acreage also fluctuated sharply, ranging from about 20,000 to 100,000 acres.

Between 1947-48 and 1951-52 a great increase took place in cotton acreage and production. Production increased from 25,000 bales in 1947-48 to nearly 207,000 bales in 1951-52, and acreage from about 47,800 to 450,000 acres. The yield of lint per acre fluctuated considerably during this period, reaching a high of 406 pounds in 1950-51 and a low of 220 pounds in 1951-52.

Table 4.--Syria: Cotton acreage, yield, production, and consumption, 1941-42 to 1951-52

Year	Acreage	Yield of lint per acre	Production 1/		Consumption 1/
			Baladi	Total	Total
	Acres	Pounds	Bales	Bales	Bales
1941-42	46,900	131	*	12,700	*
1942-43	32,900	288	*	19,700	*
1943-44	37,700	180	*	14,200	*
1944-45	41,300	153	*	13,800	*
1945-46	43,300	221	*	19,900	*
1946-47	49,000	239	*	24,400	*
1947-48	47,800	251	5,500	25,000	9,200
1948-49	2/ 59,300	339	11,020	41,900	32,400
1949-50	3/ 98,800	3/ 297	9,200	61,200	27,600
1950-51	192,600	406	6,900	163,000	31,700
4/ 1951-52	450,000	220	9,190	206,700	33,400

* Not available.
1/ Equivalent 500-pound gross-weight bales.
2/ About 60 percent was under irrigation.
3/ OFAR estimate.
4/ Trade estimate.

Source: Governmental official statistics.

Table 5.—Syria: Distribution of cotton acreage, by province, 1941-50

Mohafazah (province)	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Damascus . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	410
Homs	371	247	74	74	86	86	99	200	870	4,942
Hama	2,718	1,977	2,347	2,224	2,718	2,842	3,459	7,882	8,649	35,830
Hauran . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62	259
Euphrates .	983	1,038	642	741	865	865	-	7	1,285	15,073
Jezireh . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	297	3,212	15,098
Aleppo . . .	42,798	29,652	34,595	38,214	37,238	41,453	41,662	44,078	43,355	101,037
Latakia . .	-	-	-	-	2,397	3,771	2,557	6,835	5,073	19,993
Total .	46,870	32,914	37,658	41,253	43,304	49,017	47,777	59,299	1/62,506	192,642

1/ OFAR estimate 98,800 acres.

Source: Government official statistics.

The area planted to cotton in each province during the years 1941-50 is given in table 5. During the 1950-51 season a little over half of the acreage was grown in the Aleppo area, about one-fifth around Hama, 8 percent in the Euphrates area, 8 percent at Jezireh, 10 percent at Latakia, and the balance in the Damascus, Homs, and Hauran areas. It is understood this distribution held in 1951-52.

Statistics for the area planted to various crops are not available for 1951, but the following tabulation gives the official Syrian figures on acreage and production of the basic crops in 1950:

	Area 1,000 acres	Production Thousands
Wheat	2,095	750.0 metric tons
Barley	1,029	200.0 metric tons
Cotton	193	163.0 bales
Olives	199	25.9 metric tons
Grapes	167	115.0 metric tons
Tobacco	21	7.6 metric tons
Total	3,704	-

During the past several seasons, due to the relatively better prices for cotton than other Syrian crops, a substantial part of the irrigated area has been shifting into cotton. But for the fact that the Syrian Government permits only from 40 to 70 percent of the irrigated land in each province to be planted to cotton all the 2,400,000 acres irrigated could go to that crop. In the dryland farming area, with the exception of the Aleppo area where the rainfall is heavier, only 25 to 33 percent of the cultivated area may be devoted to cotton (see table 6).

Table 6.--Syria: Percentage of cultivable land permitted to cotton, 1952-53

Mohafazah (province)	Dry land	Irrigated land
	Percent	Percent
Aleppo	50	60
Hama	33	70
Latakia	33	60
Jezireh	25	60
Euphrates	--	60
Homs	33	50
Damascus	--	40
Hauran	25	60
As Suwaydah	25	50

The progressive increase in cotton production after World War II was brought about by the relatively high prices in soft-currency offered for cotton by consuming countries. During the years immediately following the war Syria increased its cotton production primarily to supply domestic needs of about 30,000 bales per season. During 1947 Syria imported about 7,000 bales and in 1948 about 9,000 bales. Prior to 1950 Syria had little cotton to export, but 1949-50 was a good cotton season and the high prices obtained for the crop encouraged the planting of over twice as much cotton in 1950 as in 1949. Thus, when the United States imposed export controls in September 1950, Syria found itself in a good position. As Syria was willing to accept soft currency as payment, the countries needing cotton supplies bid up the price of Syrian cotton to the equivalent of about US$0.70 per pound. Numerous cotton producers realized large and unexpected profits. The extraordinary profits made on cotton in the 1950-51 season brought many Syrian people into cotton farming in 1951. Large numbers of townspeople and professional men who knew little about cotton rushed into growing the crop, only to lose heavily as 1951-52 was a very bad year for cotton in Syria. The cotton became heavily infested with insects, especially the pink bollworm which was and is very prevalent in the cotton areas in the adjoining countries. Few farmers were aware of the presence of the insects and little was done to eliminate them. Production was higher in 1951 than in 1950 but the average yield dropped from 406 to 220 pounds per acre.

Exports

Because of increased production and increased demand for Syrian cotton, Syria's exports increased from less than 2,000 bales in 1949 to over 85,000 bales in 1950 and over 100,000 bales in 1951. (Cotton exports are listed by country of destination in table 7.)

Table 7.—Syria: Cotton exports, by country of destination, 1946 to 1951 1/

Country	1946	1947	1949	1950 First Quarter	1950 Last three Quarters	1951	1951-52 2/
	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales
France	-	51	198	10,320	31,668	48,547	66,882
Italy	-	707	87	1,511	11,638	9,838	8,993
Lebanon	-	-	-	-	5,447	13,862	-
Spain	-	-	-	-	285	1,676	4,455
Western Germany	-	-	96	243	1,369	2,480	2,287
United Kingdom	-	-	101	3,840	16,006	8,221	56,773
Belgium	-	-	-	1,557	5,139	1,300	657
United States	-	-	900	-	602	767	-
India	-	-	-	-	482	-	-
Japan	-	-	-	-	2,531	3,151	-
Lebanon Free Zone	-	-	-	-	10,826	12,704	-
Poland	-	-	-	-	-	919	2,623
Switzerland	-	-	432	-	671	588	-
Trieste	-	-	-	-	-	418	-
Turkey	-	-	-	-	-	390	-
Other countries	211	46	-	5	468	18	937
Total	3/ 211	3/ 804	3/1,814	3/ 17,476	87,132	104,879	143,607

1/ Exports in bales equivalent 480 pounds net weight. Data for 1948 not available.
2/ September 1, 1951 to May 15, 1952. Statistics for other years on a calendar-year basis.
3/ Syria and Lebanon combined. Does not include shipments from Syria to Lebanon.

Source: Publications of the Supreme Council of the Syrian-Lebanese Customs Union and Directorate General of the Syrian Customs.

Cotton Control Board

As a result of the disastrous 1951-52 season the Government established a Cotton Control Board early in 1952. The headquarters of the Board are in the city of Aleppo, center of the main cotton growing area. The Board, which is charged with the responsibility of stabilizing cotton production, is undertaking to promulgate and enforce regulations intended to promote cotton production on a sound basis. It plans to direct cotton breeding, seed distribution, insect control, ginning and classing. An Egyptian cotton expert has been employed to develop cotton standards for classing the cotton. The Board also determines and announces the percentages of the cropland that may be planted to cotton in order that needed food crops will be produced and crop rotation will be practiced.

Very little, if any, rainfall occurs between April 1 and October 1. Cotton planting and ginning must be completed by a fixed time. For the 1952 crop all cotton must have been planted by the end of April, and ginning completed and trash burned from the 1951-52 crop by May 1. The dates are determined and set by the type of season experienced. The Government requires all farmers to apply poison to their cotton to control the insects. In the cases of farmers who do not comply, the Government supplies the poison and charges them for it. Since Syria is infested with the pink bollworm, a new decree is being published which requires all cotton used to be disinfected as it is ginned.

All cotton exported must show on the bale the moisture content and the name of the ginner. Nine percent moisture is allowed. If false statements are made the Government may take 30 percent of the cotton as a penalty. Exporters sometime add too much water to their cotton. This has been especially true during the past two seasons. The Cotton Board, through its agents, enforce the regulations.

Cotton Gins

Prior to 1950 all the cotton gins in Syria were of the roller type and made locally. It is reported that there are 1,751 roller stands available for ginning. In 1950 one modern American saw gin was installed and it proved so successful that 26 complete American saw gins with a total of 82 stands have since been sold. Most of these are located in the Aleppo area, which produces over half of the cotton. The gins are complete with one super unit cleaner and presses with a density of 12-14 pounds per cubic foot. The gin equipment is housed in natural stone buildings surrounded with flowers, shrubbery, paved roads, and modern offices. In the Aleppo area, by law, the gins are concentrated in one area, and since the buildings are arranged around a square they have the appearance of a new modern university campus.

It is reported that the average 4-stand gin costs about US$175,000, of which about US$120,000 goes into the land and building. During the 1951-52 season the charge for ginning a bale of cotton was the equivalent of approximately US$9. This included bagging and ties.

The gins of Syria would like to put in some high-density presses if they knew what to do with the low-density ones they have. They feel they could save enough on ocean freight to pay for a high-density press, and there is talk of installing one on a cooperative basis.

Marketing

The cotton merchant, who generally is a gin owner and exporter, purchases from 60 to about 70 percent of the cotton directly from farmers. The remainder is purchased by a middleman who as a rule has already advanced funds to the farmer to produce his crop. The middleman sells his cotton to the gin owner.

About 90 percent of the cotton is sold by the farmers before it is ginned, and quite often before it is picked. If the farmer is badly in need of cash he may sell his cotton even before the crop has been harvested. In 1951 this practice caused trouble since some farmers sold more cotton than they were able to deliver.

Farmers who sell cotton early in the season before it is harvested take heavy discounts. It is reported that a farmer who is considered a poor risk receives only half the current market price for his cotton, while a good farmer receives 70 percent.

The three grades of cotton sold and bought in Syria are: (1) good, (2) medium, and (3) low. The ginner on taking delivery of the seed cotton inspects it for grade and staple and directs it to storage houses adjoining the gin plant where similar cotton is stored. Attempts are made to thoroughly mix the seed cotton in each bin before it is fed to the suction pipes for transmission to the gin stands. The exporters sell their cotton on types which they supply their foreign representatives. Sometimes they sell for deferred delivery. During 1951, owing to a bad crop year, some exporters could not fill their commitments from Syrian cotton and it is reported that they bought United States cotton to fill their orders.

Textile Plants

The consumption of cotton in Syria has varied around 30,000 bales (480 pounds lint) during the past 4 years (see table 4). Syria has 9 mechanical textile plants that have a total of about 55,000 spindles and about 2,000 looms. There is probably an equal number of non-mechanical spindles and looms. There is an import duty of 30 percent on manufactured cotton textiles. The Syrian industry has not been producing all the textiles needed domestically, but it is increasing production and hopes to make the country self-sufficient in this respect.

A modern textile plant equipped to take the cotton all the way from the raw product through finishing was installed and put into operation in Damascus during 1949. The plant has 10,000 spindles and 350 full automatic looms. The plans for the mill were drawn in the United States and the plant was installed by engineers trained in the United States, England, and Germany. Most of the machinery is American made. The mill operates on three shifts of 600 employees each. The heads of the various departments were trained in the textile mills and business schools of England and the United States. The mill has a very modern clinic where the workers receive free medical attention and medicine. The workers have compensation insurance, paid vacations, and retirement privileges. The average daily wage rate is about equivalent to the hourly rate in the United States. The mill exports about 20 percent of its cloth production. As a rule it purchases its 12 months' raw cotton requirements during the last 4 months of the calendar year.

Production of cotton yarn in Syria for the calendar years 1940-51 is given below:

	Metric tons		Metric tons
1940	600	1946	1,440
1941	945	1947	1,620
1942	810	1948	2,400
1943	990	1949	4,500
1944	1,350	1950	6,000
1945	1,350	1951	5,500

Prices

During the 1950-51 cotton season Syria's cotton, like many other non-U.S. growths, brought prices far in excess of cotton prices in the United States. This situation was brought about by the relative scarcity of United States cotton in the world market, the scarcity of dollars to purchase United States cotton, and the willingness of many countries to accept soft currency as payment. Syria was one of the countries with cotton to sell that was willing to accept sterling as payment. Syrians enjoyed high premiums for their cotton until it became apparent that the United States production was going to be sizable in 1951-52. Then, like the prices of most other non-U.S. growths, the price of Syrian cotton began to decline. By December 1951 Syrian cotton was being quoted freely, c.i.f. Europe, at only about the equivalent of US$0.035 per pound **above** United States cotton prices. The difference remained at approximately this amount during January but narrowed to about US$0.02 by the middle of February. Then came the recession in world textile trade and Syria began to have fewer buyers for its cotton. By the last of February and first of March the difference was wiped out. Syrian cotton then began to be offered at lower prices than United States cotton, and by the end of March spot Syrian cotton was selling on the European market at around the equivalent of from US$0.04 to US$0.06 per pound less than similar United States growths. In June, this difference still prevailed.

Notwithstanding the vicissitudes of the past season the Syrian trade is of the opinion that, everything else being equal, the expansion of raw cotton production in Syria will be maintained as long as the world cotton price level is around US$0.30 per pound.

Appendix

WATER DEVELOPMENT IN SYRIA*

Information on irrigation and drainage projects, irrigated area, and hydroelectric power plants is summarized below:

Irrigation and Drainage Projects

Name	Purpose	Capital cost (million $)	Status
Homs-Hama	Irrigates 54,360 acres	2.3	Completed 1950
Khabur	Irrigates 8,400 acres	2.4	Present development completed 1951; three other canals planned at $5 million total
Sinn	Shortly to irrigate 4,900 acres; eventually 7,400 acres more	1.0	First phase near completion early 1952; remainder to be completed by 1953
Al-Madikh	Irrigates 36,000 acres for 3½ months	0.7	Completed 1950
Muzeirib	Irrigates 8,650 acres	0.7	Completed 1950
Aleppo	Supply Aleppo with 75,000 cubic meters of water daily	6.5	To be completed July 1952
Ghab Swamp	Drain 75,000 acres; irrigate 107,000 acres	14.5	To be completed 1955
Roudj Swamp	Drain and irrigate 9,600 acres	1.5	To be completed 1954

Area Irrigated by Pumps and Gravity Flow

	Number of pumps	Acres irrigated
Pumps and engines:		
Orontes River	1,875	108,000
Euphrates River	600	360,000
Khabur River	500	96,000
All other streams and wells	2,093	273,000
Total pumps and engines	5,068	837,000
Gravity flow (est.)		1,500,000
Total irrigated land (est.)		2,400,000

Hydroelectric Power

	Kilowatts
At Et Tekiye on the Barada River for Damascus	4,500
At Chajar on the Orontes River for Homs-Hama	1,500
At Baniyas on the west coast	11
At Baniyas in southern Syria	5

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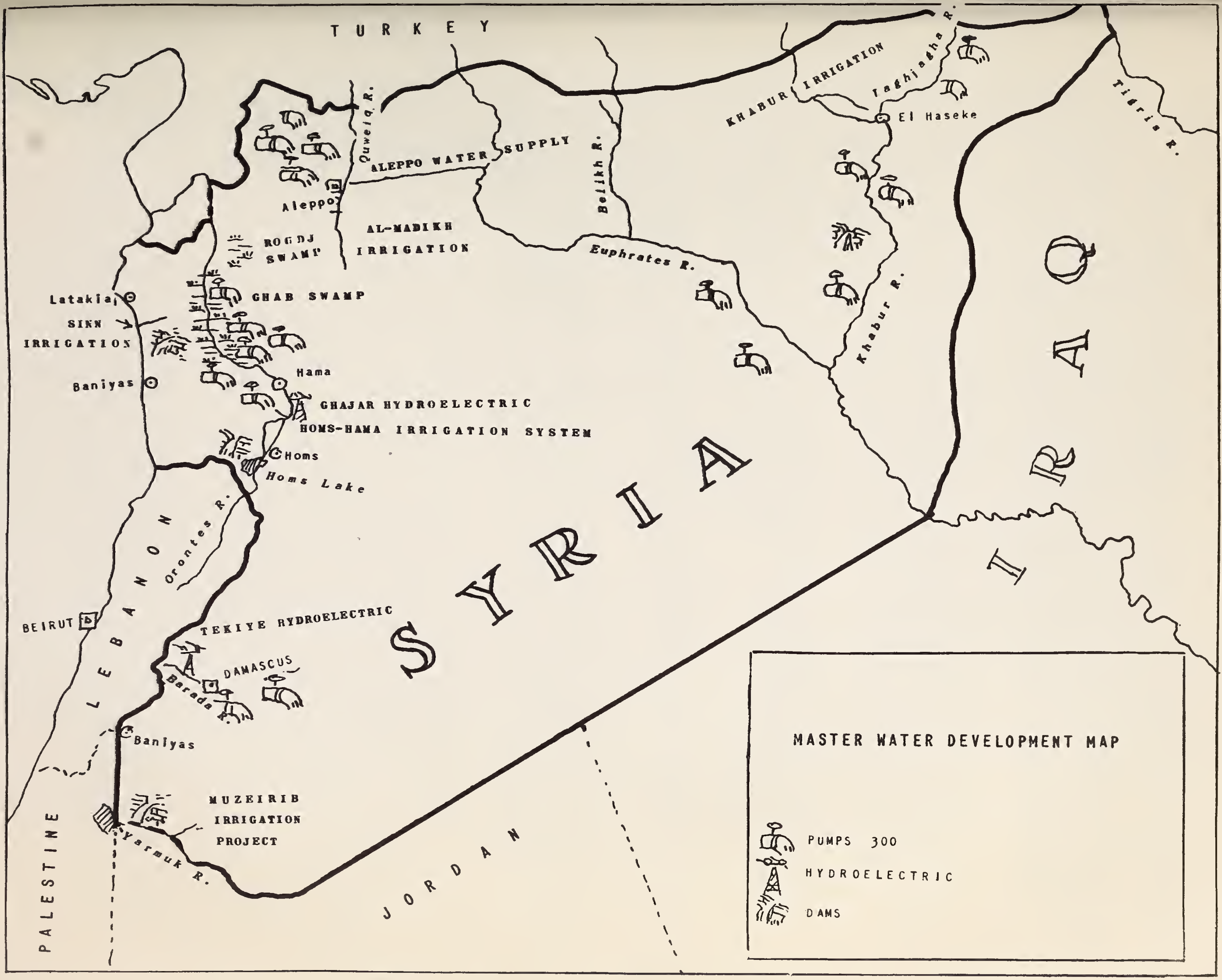
* Based on extracts from a report prepared by the Economic Section, American Legation, Damascus. The Directorate of Irrigation, Ministry of Public Works, was exceedingly helpful in reviewing this material.


MASTER WATER DEVELOPMENT MAP
PUMPS 300
HYDROELECTRIC
DAMS
TURKEY
SYRIA
IRAQ
LEBANON
PALESTINE
JORDAN
Tigris R.
Taghjagha R.
El Haseke
KHABUR IRRIGATION
Khabur R.
Euphrates R.
Belikh R.
Quweiq R.
ALEPPO WATER SUPPLY
Aleppo
AL-MADIKH IRRIGATION
ROGDJ SWAMP
GHAB SWAMP
Latakia
SIKN IRRIGATION
Baniyas
Hama
GHAJAR HYDROELECTRIC
HOMS-HAMA IRRIGATION SYSTEM
Homs
Homs Lake
Orontes R.
BEIRUT
TEKIYE HYDROELECTRIC
DAMASCUS
Barada R.
Baniyas
MUZEIRIB IRRIGATION PROJECT
Yarmuk R.

Irrigation and Drainage Projects

The Homs-Hama irrigation project was completed in 1950 at a cost equivalent to US$2.3 million. This project is in the western part of Syria and extends from Homs Lake, which is at the northern end of the Beqa Valley and near the city of Homs, to Hama. It follows the east bank of the Orontes River up to Er Rastan where it crosses to the west bank. The area is one of Syria's most productive agricultural regions, and has cotton and wheat as the principal cash crops. Annual rainfall varies between 15 and 20 inches in this region, but is confined to the October-April period.

The project begins at the northern end of Homs Lake where there is a rock-faced earth (clay) dam 1,200 meters long, 7 meters high, 12 meters at base, and 5 meters at top. The dam is backstopped by another dam constructed by the Romans. It creates a reservoir whose greatest depth is 7 meters, and which holds 200 million cubic meters of water, of which 100 million cubic meters per year are now used.

The surface of the lake could be raised by 1½ meters, but land would have to be condemned to make this possible. At the western end of the dam is a concrete outlet for the Orontes River, and near the eastern end is a concrete outlet for irrigation channels.

Both the main and lateral irrigation channels are of concrete construction. The main channel is 70 kilometers long, 7 meters wide at the top, and from 1.50 to 1.70 meters deep.

The flow in the main canal is 6.5 cubic meters of water per second. The channel follows the eastern side of the Orontes River to Er Rastan, where it crosses the Orontes in a deep gorge by means of a siphon. The pipe of the siphon is approximately 34 inches in diameter. There are approximately 120 kilometers of secondary channels.

The project is designed to serve an area of nearly 55,000 acres, but approximately three times the present flow is needed to provide full irrigation for the whole area. In general, the yearly pattern for the area is one-half under irrigation, one-third planted without irrigation, and the remainder fallow. If the area were planted altogether in cotton, only 40 percent of the land could be irrigated according to the Irrigation Department. The corresponding percentage for rice would be 10. Winter crops are not irrigated. In 1951, between 24,000 and 29,000 acres are estimated to have been planted to cotton. Farmers receive 0.20 liter of water per second per hectare (2.471 acres) from April through October. Although there are a few large holdings in the area, the modal holding varied between 12 and 24 acres.

The work as it stands represents only the first phase of a larger project. The second phase would be the construction of a channel on the west side of the Orontes from Homs to Er Rastan similar to that now operating on the east side. The third and fourth phases involve the construction of two channels from the lake itself south of the dam. This new construction would treble the land now being irrigated.

The Khabur irrigation is in northeast Syria. The present development was begun in 1943 by the French and completed by the Syrian Irrigation Department in 1951.

The completed development extends from Tell Massas to a point about 10 kilometers short of El Haseke and is on the east bank of the Khabur. The proposed development would extend from Ras el Ain to El Haseke and would include both the east and the west bank. The area is an important agricultura region which in 1950 and 1951 was devoted principally to cotton.

The system was planned to utilize the waters of the Khabur and its principal tributary, the Jaghjagha, for irrigation. The irrigated area is in the rich Jezireh agricultural region which does not receive enough rainfall for wheat.

The project begins near Tell Massas with an offtake gate from the Khabur River. There are 150 kilometers of secondary and tertiary canals. The capacity of the primary canal is 4.5 cubic meters per second, of the secondary 0.5 to 1 cubic meter per second, and of the tertiary 50 to 100 liters per second. The completed portion of the project can irrigate an area of 18,034 acres.

The remainder of the scheme, as yet in the planning stage, includes:

1. A canal on the west bank from Tell Massas to El Haseke, 37 kilometers in length, to irrigate 9,360 acres.
2. A canal on the east bank between Ras el Ain and Tell Massas to irrigate 17,760 acres.
3. A canal on the west bank between Ras el Ain and Tell Massas 92 kilometers long, to irrigate 31,920 acres.

The project thus far executed cost £S9 million (US$2.4 million), and was financed by funds from the Syrian budget. The estimated cost of the uncompleted part of the project is some £S18 million (US$5 million).

Sinn Project. This project is on the Sinn River, the coastal plain south of Latakia. The river derives from springs beside the main road between Latakia and Banias and flows for about 5 kilometers directly into the Mediterranean.

The springs at the source of the river have a flow of 18 cubic meters per second during the winter and 9 to 12 cubic meters during the remaining months. An earth dam and a spillway for the river have been constructed about 50 meters from the springs.

The dam is of the diversion type. It is not intended to form a reservoir but only to raise the water to a level at which it will flow into the canal. From the dam there is a concrete canal 8 kilometers long which will have a gravity flow of 1 cubic meter per second. Together with subsidiary lateral canals, it will irrigate roughly 4,900 acres. Just beyond the dam, and between this canal and the river channel, the water will be allowed to fall 6 meters to operate a small hydroelectric plant. The energy derived from the fall will be used to pump water from the river to a second canal located to the north and above the springs. Water from the river will be pumped a distance of 200 meters in one water pipe. The canal, which will also be constructed of concrete, will be 15 kilometers long, and, with lateral channels, will irrigate an area of roughly 7,400 acres. The flow will be 1.5 cubic meters per second. Both main canals will provide water to farmers at the rate of 0.5 liter per second per hectare (2.471 acres). An additional derivation canal to irrigate approximately 1,000 acres may be constructed to the south of the discharge basin.

There are large land holdings around the springs, but the area to the north and south is farmed mostly by smallholders. The agriculture in the area is similar to that around Tripoli, Lebanon. The Director of Irrigation suggests that it may be possible to grow citrus fruits, bananas, vegetables, and cotton.

The first phase of the project, which includes the dam and spillway, was completed during 1950. The main derivation canal was contracted to a Syrian-Lebanese firm in 1951 and is expected to be finished in early 1952. The second phase, which includes the second main canal, has been awarded to a Syrian firm, and should be completed in about a year. Tenders have been submitted for the construction of the third phase, the fall and hydroelectric plant, and are still under study.

Muzeirib Irrigation Project. Muzeirib is on the Deraa-Haifa railway line about 10 kilometers northwest of Deraa in southeastern Syria. The project is on the Muzeirib River, one of the tributaries of the Yarmuk River.

There is a small dam across the river near Muzeirib. A concrete canal with subsidiary lateral canals has been constructed on each side of the river. The canals are of approximately equal length, and have a total length of approximately 35 kilometers. The flow of each canal is 2 cubic meters per second. The project irrigates an area of approximately 8,650 acres. During the crop season, April to October, each farmer is permitted 0.6 liters per second per hectare (2.471 acres). During 1951 cotton was grown in the area.

The project was begun in 1941 and finished in 1950. Plans to enlarge this project to irrigate an additional 12,500 acres near the Yarmuk are subject to an agreement with Jordan on the use of the Yarmuk.

The cost is approximately £S2,500,000 (about US$700,000), which was paid out of the regular budgetary appropriations to the Irrigation Directorate.

Al-Madikh Irrigation. The project runs along the bed of the Quweiq River from Eeitan to Tallijin.

The system utilizes the waters of the Quweiq River, when available, and irrigates the lands adjacent to the river bed and the canal ditches.

The Quweiq River rises in Turkey. Until 1930, all of its flow was said to be available for Syria. Since 1930, progressively greater use has been made of the river's waters near its source in Turkey. As a consequence, its waters are available for irrigation in Syria only from January to the middle of April which is the period of heaviest rainfall in Syria.

The system consists of 160 kilometers of lateral irrigation ditches of earth construction. The system irrigates an area of 36,000 acres, but delivers water for only 3½ months of the year.

The project was begun in 1948 and completed in 1950 at an estimated cost of £S2.5 million (US$658,000).

Rates for the use of irrigation waters on this project are given below. These are the cheapest of all Syrian irrigation waters.

Up to 5 hectares 1/	£S5
Over 5 hectares and up to 25 hectares	£S7
Over 25 hectares and up to 50 hectares	£S10
Over 50 hectares	£S15

1/ One hectare = 2.471 acres; 3.5 £S = US$1.

Aleppo Water Supply Project. This project is designed to augment the water supply of the municipality of Aleppo by bringing 75,000 cubic meters of water per day to the city from the Euphrates River. Some reports anticipate that since this is a quintupling of present water supply there will be enough water to irrigate some 20,000 acres of gardens and truck farms about Aleppo.

The project begins at the Euphrates in the region of Mouraibett. Here three stationary pipes 30-inches in diameter are placed in the river. By means of Diesel pumps, the water is to be elevated from the bed of the river to the top of the escarpment, a height of some 140 meters. At the top of the escarpment the water enters the aqueduct which for most of its length is a monolithic concrete conduit, laid underground at an average depth of some 4 meters. The water flows by gravity some 75 kilometers to Aleppo, over a winding course chosen so that a continuous downward slope is preserved. At Aleppo the water is to be stored as required in a newstone reservoir with a capacity of 25,000 cubic meters.

The total cost is estimated at £S15 million (US$6.5 million). The Government of Syria has assisted the Aleppo Water Supply Administration in financing the project by extending a loan. The project is intended to be self-liquidating through the collections from consumers in Aleppo.

Two drainage-irrigation projects are expected to be completed within the next 3 years. One is the Ghab Swamp, which extends about 45 miles along the Orontes River in northwest Syria. The system will drain about 75,000 acres and provide irrigation for about 110,000 acres. The Government plans to sell the land to small farmers. Definite plans will be made for the project during 1952. The project, which will cost about US$15.0 million, is to be self-liquidating through sales and rents of land.

The other project, known as the Roudj Swamp, is in northwest Syria, north of the Ghab Swamp project. It will be handled in a manner similar to the Ghab Swamp project and will bring in nearly 10,000 acres. It is estimated that the project will cost about US$1.5 million.

Irrigation by Pumps in Syria

On the basis of available estimates it appears that more land is irrigated by individual pumps than by the existing large public works of dams and canals. In mid-1951 approximately 107,500 acres were irrigated by the large systems and 876,000 acres by pumps. The figure for the area irrigated by pumps is an estimate obtained by projecting the results of a sample, consisting of a complete count of the province of Hama.

The 1950 figures shown in table Al are Syrian Ministry of Agriculture statistics. (No pumps were listed by the Ministry for Hauran and As Suwaydah.) The 1951 figure for Hama is the result of a count by the Ministry of Agriculture. The 1951 figures for all other provinces except Euphrates and Jezireh are a projection of the rate of growth exhibited in Hama. The Euphrates and Jezireh estimates are based on extensive inquiry. While estimates obtained in this manner may be subject to rather large errors the results are believed to be reasonably reliable.

Table Al.--Syria: Number of engine-powered irrigation pumps and area irrigated by pumps, mid-1950 and estimates for mid-1951

Mohafazah (province)	Number of Pumps		Area Irrigated	
	1950	1951	1950	1951
			Acres	Acres
Euphrates . .	275	600	118,447	370,650
Aleppo . . .	629	1,069	56,146	158,144
Damascus . .	327	556	36,865	103,782
Hama	845	1,470	35,773	100,164
Jezireh . . .	281	500	31,080	98,840
Latakia . . .	275	468	11,762	32,123
Homs	238	405	4,804	12,355
Total	2,869	5,068	294,877	876,058

There can be no doubt that 1951 was a year of great pump expansion in Syria. The good crops of 1950 were sold at favorable world prices, Syrian national income rose, and the proportion of it accounted for by agriculture probably rose. The wheat crop was 750,000 tons of which one-third was exported, and the cotton crop was some 35,000 metric tons, a three-fold expansion over the previous year, of which more than two-thirds was exported at the all-time high world prices prevailing. Consequently, Syrian agriculturalists were in a position to increase their investments in agriculture, and non-agriculturalists were attracted to agriculture as the most attractive field of investment. In the first quarter of 1951 alone, Syria imported 698 pumps and 1,152 agricultural engines, the most of them presumably to provide the power for pumps. In addition, a number of pumps may have been manufactured locally.

Pump Irrigation by Provinces.

Euphrates leads the provinces of Syria in area irrigated by pumps, as shown on page 12. The Euphrates River, which is easily the largest river in Syria, has a flow of 200 cubic meters per second. Moreover, there are no public irrigation schemes on the Euphrates in Syria so that the use of its waters must be by pump. The modal pump in use on the Euphrates is between 6 and 10 inches in diameter, and there are more pumps in the 16-20 inch category in use than in the 2-5 inch category, which is the standard in most other sections in Syria. In 1950 the Euphrates province had 113 engines of 41 horsepower and over, and this class is the modal one.

Most of the pumps in the Euphrates province are in the Euphrates River itself rather than in wells. Aside from the Euphrates River Valley the Euphrates province is exceedingly dry, with desert areas occurring on both sides of the valley. The river bed is 10 miles across at points. The channel of the river may be narrow when the flow is least during the summer, but in winter and in the spring when the flow is at its maximum the channel may be very wide, and in settling down, the river may prefer a different channel from the one it used in the previous summer. This creates a difficult problem for those who rely on permanent pump installations, since water may not always choose to run on the installation. People in the area explain these vagaries of the Euphrates in terms of more or less water in the river. The flow does vary from year to year, depending on the volume of snow in the Turkish mountains where the river rises, but the principal explanation seems to be in terms of the shifting course of the river within its bed.

Escarpments 30 to 300 feet high rise on each side of the Euphrates River bed for much of its length in Syria. If the river chances to flow on an extreme side of its bed and it is desired to irrigate land outside the river bed, there is the problem of a high lift for the water up the escarpment. The procurement of water for the Aleppo Water Supply faces the problem of lifting water out of the Euphrates and over the escarpment. From the top of the escarpment it flows by gravity to Aleppo.

Aleppo stands second to the province of Euphrates in land irrigated by pumps. It is the most populous and the most productive province in Syria. Although the Euphrates River flows across a corner of Aleppo and gives water for its share of pumps, most of the pumps in the Aleppo region are installed in wells rather than on rivers and streams. The pump is usually between 2 and 5 inches in diameter and the engine between 6-10 horsepower. These are the modes for the country as a whole.

Damascus stands third in area irrigated by pumps. Most of the pumps in this province are installed in wells, since the area, in particular the oasis of Damascus, is fed by rivers that flow from mountainous heights into the valley, requiring no pumping. Some pumps have been installed in the Awaj River.

Hama stands fourth in area irrigated by pumps, although it has more pumps than any other province. In proportion to its area, Hama has more irrigation than any other province in Syria; in addition to the pumps, it has a section of the Homs-Hama Irrigation System. Some land that is not irrigated by the secondary and tertiary canals of the Homs-Hama System can be irrigated with water pumped from the river. Most of the pumps are in the Orontes River. The Orontes is a much smaller river than the Euphrates, but in the Hama province, at least, its valley is broader than the Euphrates Valley.

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FOREIGN MARKET NOTES--COTTON

Rayon Competition with Cotton Rising in Italy [1]

By Francis H. Whitaker
Marketing Specialist

The Italian artificial fiber industry has made strong efforts during the past several years to conclude long-term contracts with cotton mills for large quantities of artificial fiber, mostly for mixing with cotton. Under the Fascist regime the textile industry was required by law to use from 25 to 40 percent of nationally produced fibers. This was considered necessary to minimize the need for foreign exchange for cotton and wool imports and to aid the expansion of the artificial fiber industry as a part of the program for national self-sufficiency.

In 1939 artificial fibers comprised about 28 percent of the raw materials used by spinning mills. During the peak war years they amounted to about 70 percent. Since the end of World War II this percentage has ranged from 4 to 12 percent. It was 3.9 percent in 1947, 4.8 percent in 1948, 9.4 percent in 1949, 11.6 percent in 1950, and 12.5 percent in 1951. The relatively low postwar percentages may be attributed in part to the availability of adequate quantities of cotton from the United States under various aid programs and, in the years immediately following the war, to a lack of sufficient supplies of coal, chemicals, and pulp for operation of artificial fiber mills. Moreover, the consumers of Italy, freed from the necessity of using synthetic substitutes, have indicated a decided preference for cotton materials in many uses.

Production of rayon yarn and staple fiber in Italy was equivalent to about 717,000 bales of cotton in 1939 and about 921,000 bales in 1941. Since the war, production of synthetics has been at much lower levels, in keeping with the reduced mill consumption. Production of rayon yarn and staple fiber increased from the equivalent of 340,000 bales of cotton in 1948 to 447,000 equivalent bales in 1949, 534,000 in 1950, and 674,000 in 1951. The boost in production in 1950 and most of 1951 was stimulated by the scarcity and relatively high prices of natural fibers and by the greater amounts of foreign exchange needed for imports of natural fibers than for the raw materials of rayon manufacture, much of which are produced in Italy.

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[1] Part of a continuing study of foreign market outlets and competition with United States cotton, conducted under the provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Act. Mr. Whitaker acknowledges the help given him by the staff of the American Embassy at Rome.

In Italy, as in practically all cotton-manufacturing countries, the cotton-textile industry has experienced something of a recession in recent months. The Italian industry appears to be facing continued difficulties because of an expected reduction in dollar exchange allocations for cotton imports, a possible reduction in United States foreign aid for this purpose, and the fact that cotton available from a number of nondollar areas is still more expensive than that from dollar areas. A tie-in purchase requirement between purchases of cotton from sterling and from dollar areas has been effective most of this year.

Over most of the past year the artificial fiber industry has suffered from overproduction and weak demand to a greater extent than has the cotton-textile industry. The artificial fiber industry has sufficient idle capacity to expand production by about one-third whenever the demand for its products justifies the expansion. Consequently, it is in a strong position, with the prospective aid of favorable legislation, to benefit from any difficulties the cotton industry may encounter in obtaining adequate supplies of cotton at prices competitive with those for artificial fibers.

Strong efforts in the form of sales promotion and requests for favorable legislation are being made by the artificial fiber industry to increase production and sales to the record level reached during the war. The most recent move on the part of the industry to attain this goal was an effort to bring about a tie-in of the government's allocations of dollar exchange for cotton imports with required purchases of artificial fibers by the mills. On this subject the Italian Economic News recently made the following comment:

> In its issue of March 29, the authoritative economic weekly MONDO ECONOMICO printed a front page survey of the present difficult situation of the Italian cotton industry. Following recent declines in sales both on the internal market and for export, the weekly asserted that it is estimated that 1952 output may register a 10 percent drop from last year and thus reach the 1949 levels. Additional difficulties are forecast in the procurement of raw materials in view of the expected cut in dollar availabilities for the purchase of cotton in the United States. According to statements made by the Ministers of Foreign Trade and Industry in a recent meeting with leaders of the cotton industry, dollar availabilities for that purpose are expected to reach only 50 million dollars, or about one-half of estimated requirements (100,000 tons). In the framework of the various "readjustments" contemplated to face such a situation MONDO ECONOMICO further reported that "the most important and most surprising" was a

proposal to tie-in during 1952-53 "purchases of cotton for dollars with the purchase of domestic artificial fibers; the industrialists, in order to obtain a dollar allocation for the purchase of raw cotton, would have to prove the purchase of an equal amount of artificial fibers." The weekly noted that this "much more irrational extension" of the principle of the tie-in established this year between purchases of cotton from the sterling area and from the dollar area would establish "a precedent whose possible extensions can be envisioned by even the most limited imagination." It added that the combination, while obviously beneficial for the artificial fiber industry (whose consumption would rise by some 40 to 50 percent over the record postwar level registered in 1951) "does not appear to be equally beneficial for the cotton industry....It should be noted that at least part of the dollars involved in the proposed tie-in would likely be MSA dollars which in past years have played a dominant part in the financing of Italian cotton purchased on the United States market."

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FC 10-52 October 9, 1952

FOREIGN MARKET NOTES--COTTON

Denmark to Increase Cotton Imports from the United States [1]

By Francis H. Whitaker
Marketing Specialist

It is reported by the trade that on August 1, 1952, Denmark had about 11,445 bales of raw cotton [2]--enough to last until about October 15 of this year. Although total stocks were little different from the quantity on hand August 1 last year, stocks of United States cotton were only about 65 percent as large (table 1). It is reported, however, that Denmark plans to import about 50,063 bales of cotton in the new crop season and that 70 to 75 percent of it will be United States cotton. About 7,578 bales have already been placed on order. Members of the trade feel they will be able to manage their dollar purchases by paying premiums for dollars on the free markets of Europe, through dollar earnings of exports, and through defense orders placed by the United States.

Denmark imports about one-third of the cotton yarn it weaves. During the calendar year 1951 its imports of yarns were reported at 5,767 short tons and exports at about 65 short tons (table 2). This places net imports at 5,702 tons. Assuming 10 percent waste in spinning, the Danish yarn imports were equivalent to about 6,340 tons of cotton. Cotton consumption during the 1951-52 season was about 47,000 bales--only 900 bales less than the previous season. Net imports of cotton yarns during the first 5 months of 1952, however, were only about 27 percent as large as imports of yarns during the same period in 1951. Although some of the reduction in imports was associated with the general textile recession, a large part of it was caused by the success of the Danish spinners in holding their home market for yarns.

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[1] Preliminary report of a study of foreign market outlets and competition with United States cotton, conducted under the provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Act. Mr. Whitaker acknowledges the help given him by the staff of the United States Agricultural Attache at Copenhagen, and the cotton trade of Denmark.

[2] Throughout this report the term "bale" means bale of 500 pounds gross weight.

There are five principal spinning mills in Denmark. These mills have about 120,000 spindles--about a 20 percent increase over the number in 1938. Denmark has been replacing old spindles with new ones and in general is gradually replacing old equipment with modern machinery. In the very near future Denmark expects modernization to increase production capacity and efficiency to a point where the Danish industry will be in a better position to compete with the spinners and weavers in other countries.

It is estimated that Denmark imports about one-third of its piece goods, as well as about one-third of its yarn. Therefore, to be self-sufficient in yarns and textiles at the present level of domestic needs, Denmark would about have to double its spinning and increase its weaving by one-third. Were this level to be attained, Denmark's imports of raw cotton would have to be more than doubled.

Raw cotton consumption in Denmark has shown a marked increase since the end of World War II, but not until the 1948-49 season did it approach the prewar level (see table 3).

Plans call for about 48,000 bales to be consumed in Denmark during the 1952-53 crop season.

Table 1.--Denmark: Raw cotton stocks, imports, and consumption, 1949-50 to 1951-52 and plans for 1952-53

(In bales of 500 pounds gross weight)

Year	Country of origin		
	United States	Other	Total
	Bales	Bales	Bales
Stocks (August 1):			
1949	6,880	156	7,036
1950	5,337	2,916	8,253
1951	9,668	2,228	11,896
1952 1/	6,223	5,222	11,445
1953 1/	-	-	13,283
Imports:			
1949-50	29,137	15,364	44,501
1950-51	36,716	14,780	51,496
1951-52 1/	35,319	11,184	46,503
1952-53 1/	37,662	12,401	50,063
Consumption:			
1949-50	30,681	12,603	43,284
1950-51	32,385	15,469	47,854
1951-52 1/	38,764	8,189	46,953
1952-53 1/	-	-	48,226

1/ Preliminary.

Source: Trade estimates.

Table 2.--Denmark: Imports and exports of cotton yarns and materials, calendar year 1951, and January - May 1951 and 1952

	Calendar year 1951		January-May 1951		January-May 1952	
	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Cotton yarns:						
Unbleached	4,689	49.7	2,880	19.4	820	13.9
Bleached for sewing	159	3.0	74	0.4	33	0.1
Bleached, retail packing ...	122	8.9	66	4.3	36	2.6
Bleached, other, uncolored .	377	0.7	332	0.6	10	0.0
Bleached, other, colored ...	420	2.6	214	0.2	88	1.9
Total	5,767	64.9	3,566	24.9	987	18.5
Cotton yardgoods:						
Sail and canvas cloth	482	1.0	265	1.0	180	1.8
Other, unbleached	1,571	15.1	827	11.5	384	4.2
Patterned weave	925	10.1	456	3.3	323	2.8
Printed goods	1,028	14.1	487	1.4	686	4.2
Plain, unpatterned	1,567	18.8	691	2.2	649	12.3
Multicolored	1,095	12.8	488	5.5	292	17.5
Bleached, undyed	1,369	26.2	734	9.7	270	5.7
Velvet weave	252	5.1	60	3.3	143	0.2
Total	8,289	103.2	4,008	37.9	2,927	48.7

Source: Trade estimates.

Table 3.--Denmark: Raw cotton consumption, crop years 1937-38 to 1951-52

(In bales of 500 pounds gross weight)

Crop year	Consumption	Crop year	Consumption
	Bales		Bales
1937-38	37,000	1948-49	36,000
1945-46	27,000	1949-50	43,300
1946-47	30,000	1950-51	47,900
1947-48	34,000	1951-52	47,000

Source: Compiled from official sources.

Table 4.—Denmark: Consumption and imports of cotton from major countries of origin, 1934-52

(In bales of 500 pounds gross weight)

Calendar year	Consumption	Imports					
		United States	United Kingdom	Germany	India	All others	Total
	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales
1934	34,000	38,802	609	1,399	196	630	41,636
1935	32,000	32,082	2,673	120	115	95	35,085
1936	40,000	32,910	5,531	117	0	36	38,594
1937	35,000	37,879	3,958	8	0	92	41,937
1938	37,000	35,821	1,793	203	570	[1] 1,748	40,135
1939	[3]	34,832	2,326	65	138	[2] 4,533	41,894
1940	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	[3]	15,537
1941-44 [3]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1945	[4] 27,000	-	5,987	-	-	13,431	19,418
1946	[4] 30,000	-	19,274	-	243	12,917	32,434
1947	[4] 34,000	[3]	4,256	[3]	741	26,595	31,592
1948 [4]	36,000	31,879	-	-	-	3,688	[4] 35,567
1949 [4]	43,300	29,137	0	0	220	15,144	44,501
1950 [4]	47,900	36,716	0	0	156	14,624	51,496
1951 [4]	47,000	37,441	0	0	0	9,062	46,503
1952 [4] [5]	48,200	37,662	0	0	0	12,401	50,063

[1] Netherlands, 910 bales.
[2] Netherlands, 2,519 bales.
[3] Not available.
[4] Crop year.
[5] Preliminary.

Source: Compiled from official and trade sources.

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WORLD COTTON PRODUCTION LOWER IN 1952-53

World cotton production in 1952-53 is tentatively estimated at 34.3 million bales (of 500 pounds gross weight) from 81.5 million acres, based on early or midharvest reports for Northern Hemisphere countries. Estimates for Southern Hemisphere countries where cotton is now being planted are based on seed sales and other indicators such as price levels at planting time and bank-lending policies. These figures represent decreases of 1.0 million bales or 3 percent in production and 2.2 million acres (about 3 percent) from the near-record level of 1951-52.

Of the 1-million-bale decrease in the world total the United States accounted for 731,000 bales. In India and China, which are large producers and large consumers, production is below 1951-52 by about 200,000 bales each. In the principal foreign exporting countries major decreases of around 265,000 bales in Mexico and 200,000 (forecast) in Brazil and Argentina are more than offset by increases of roughly 275,000 bales in Egypt, 100,000 in Pakistan, 100,000 in Turkey, and 75,000 in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.

In the United States the estimate of 14,413,000 bales (October report) for 1952-53 is 4.8 percent below last year's final estimate of 15,144,000 bales. The reduction of 7.5 percent in acreage for harvest from 26,687,000 acres in 1951 to 24,693,000 in 1952 was partly offset by a rise in average yield per harvested acre from 272 pounds to 280 pounds. Drought in Texas and Oklahoma and drought followed by excessive rain and insect infestation in South Carolina and Georgia were largely responsible for sharp reductions in production in those States. Increased acreage and higher yields in most of the mid-South and Pacific Southwest resulted in increased production in those States.

Production of 1,100,000 bales in Mexico this year is down by 265,000 bales or 19 percent from 1951-52 as a result of drought and a 10-percent decrease in acreage. Restriction of production credit for cotton and producers' discouragement with rapidly falling prices during the planting season early in 1952 were the principal causes for reduced acreage.

Reductions totaling over 200,000 bales are estimated for South America in countries where the 1952-53 crops are now being planted. These estimates assume an average yield per acre compared with the above-average yields of 1951-52. Also, current reports from South Brazil forecast a reduction in acreage of 10 to 20 percent for 1952-53. Drought in most of the cotton

COTTON: Acreage and production in specified areas, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1950-52 1/

Continent and country	Acreage					Production 2/				
	Year beginning August 1					Year beginning August 1				
	Averages					Averages				
	1935-39	1945-49	1950	1951 3/	1952 3/	1935-39	1945-49	1950	1951 3/	1952 3/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
NORTH AMERICA										
El Salvador	9	35	47	72	67	5	21	27	42	38
Guatemala	-	8	6	20	20	2	5	4	11	12
Mexico	725	1,034	1,804	2,377	2,129	334	577	1,147	1,365	1,100
Nicaragua	9	11	43	70	69	5	7	22	40	35
United States	27,788	21,258	17,843	26,687	24,693	13,149	12,104	10,012	15,144	14,413
British West Indies	20	12	-	-	-	5	4	5	-	-
Haiti	-	37	25	-	-	22	10	6	8	-
Total 4/	28,642	22,403	19,796	29,298	27,058	13,523	12,730	11,225	16,619	15,618
EUROPE										
Bulgaria 5/	85	82	-	-	-	35	20	-	-	-
Greece	168	111	191	213	203	76	52	117	130	119
Italy	56	40	56	72	-	21	11	14	25	23
Rumania 5/	8	102	-	-	-	2	-	-	18	-
Spain	46	130	78	110	150	10	18	28	30	38
Yugoslavia	8	-	64	39	-	3	-	7	5	5
Total 4/	372	511	529	607	647	147	127	192	228	225
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	5,087	3,697	5,600	-	-	3,430	2,328	3,300	-	-
ASIA										
Cyprus	11	5	13	11	14	3	1	3	2	4
Iran	453	239	321	371	445	171	85	129	124	165
Iraq	53	22	100	110	124	11	5	38	28	30
Syria	85	59	193	450	350	28	32	163	223	250
Turkey	667	645	1,100	1,586	1,600	249	268	542	640	735
Afghanistan	-	-	-	-	-	49	16	28	41	45
Burma	428	178	193	223	249	97	32	35	75	65
China (incl. Manchuria)	7,038	5,831	7,650	10,100	9,550	2,855	1,939	2,430	3,000	2,800
French Indochina	36	-	-	-	-	6	2	1	4	-
Japan	2	10	11	10	-	1	3	2	2	-
India	6/ 24,204	11,306	13,466	15,500	-	6/ 5,348	2,304	2,720	3,100	2,900
Korea 7/	564	344	-	361	-	198	89	90	100	-
Indonesia	27	-	-	-	-	9	4	3	-	-
Pakistan	6/	2,965	3,011	3,376	3,400	6/	1,024	1,227	1,280	1,400
Philippine Islands	5	5	3	3	-	1	1	1	1	-
Thailand	16	84	86	77	-	7	26	28	28	28
Total 4/	33,805	21,827	26,675	32,434	32,085	9,038	5,835	7,450	8,666	8,527

SOUTH AMERICA										
Argentina	770	962	1,137	1,371	-	289	427	470	590	-
Brazil	5,562	4,520	4,800	5,000	-	1,956	1,352	1,600	1,850	-
Colombia	98	-	103	-	-	23	27	34	47	60
Ecuador	40	41	-	-	-	13	11	15	10	13
Paraguay	111	123	154	184	-	40	47	49	71	-
Peru	428	345	383	445	-	379	308	370	401	-
Venezuela	50	-	-	42	-	11	11	5	17	12
Total 4/	7,060	6,177	6,648	7,221	7,500	2,711	2,184	2,543	2,987	2,794
AFRICA AND OCEANIA										
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	439	371	539	571	-	248	246	442	285	-
Belgian Congo	874	745	815	790	-	172	195	197	218	-
Kenya	-	51	58	50	56	13	6	11	10	11
Nyasaland	84	-	-	-	-	12	8	3	10	-
Tanganyika	-	-	-	-	-	50	38	37	37	-
Uganda	1,477	1,324	1,535	1,530	1,535	281	227	289	316	300
Canary Islands	-	2	3	5	-	-	1	2	4	-
Egypt	1,821	1,367	2,050	2,055	2,042	1,893	1,456	1,754	1,666	1,940
French Equatorial Africa	390	-	600	-	-	41	104	93	145	-
French North Africa	1	5	14	33	35	8/	2	5	12	12
French West Africa	-	-	-	-	-	28	14	14	21	-
Mozambique	-	557	700	680	-	9/ 33	104	131	122	-
Nigeria	-	-	-	-	-	36	48	75	90	-
Angola	73	-	110	112	-	13	24	23	22	29
Southern Rhodesia	2	5	10	37	-	8/	2	3	8	-
Union of South Africa	-	12	40	80	80	2	3	12	24	24
Australia	53	5	4	4	-	11	1	1	1	-
Total 4/	6,176	5,805	7,252	7,590	7,710	2,840	2,483	3,100	3,000	3,336
World total 4/	81,142	60,420	66,500	83,650	81,500	31,689	25,687	27,810	35,300	34,300

1/ Production in bales of 478 pounds net prior to 1946 and 480 pounds thereafter. 2/ Years shown refer to crop years in which major portion of crop was harvested. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Includes estimates for minor-producing countries not listed above, and allowances for other figures not available. 5/ Figures for 1943 to date are not comparable with prewar figures because of boundary changes. 6/ Pakistan included with India. 7/ South Korea only, after 1941. 8/ Less than 500. 9/ Exports.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics, reports of United States Foreign Service officers and results of office research.

areas in India has recently resulted in downward revisions in estimates of the 1952-53 crop to about 2,900,000 bales. This is 200,000 bales smaller than the estimate for 1951-52 and 285,000 lower than earlier forecasts of the current crop. The China crop is reported to be down by at least 200,000 bales because of planting too early and too close, unfavorable weather, and lack of sufficient price incentives.

The largest increase in production, about 275,000 bales, is estimated (first official estimate) for Egypt and applies mainly to extra long staple (Karnak variety) in the Lower Delta area. The official acreage forecast (2,042,000 acres) for 1952-53 is 13,000 acres lower than in 1951-52 but higher yields per acre are in prospect. No estimates are available for the 1952-53 crop in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan but it may be assumed that every effort will be made to keep production high. This cotton (about 90 percent of it normally is Egyptian type) was in strong demand last season, especially in the United Kingdom, as a substitute for the higher-priced Egyptian cotton.

Acreage and production in Turkey, Syria, Iran, Iraq, and other eastern Mediterranean areas have been increasing steadily from 775,000 acres and 325,000 bales in 1947-48 to 2,550,000 acres and 1,200,000 bales forecast for 1952-53. Nearly all of the cotton in these countries is comprised of American-Upland varieties. Construction of irrigation systems throughout this area in recent years has resulted in some increase in average yields. However, lack of experience in cultivation and in use of insecticides and fertilizers is still a major obstacle to attainment of maximum yields.

In Pakistan, where 85 to 90 percent of the crop is under irrigation and additional projects are under construction, the 1952-53 crop is expected to be about 100,000 bales larger than the 1951-52 crop of 1,280,000 bales. A small increase in acreage and some expected improvement in yields are the reported causes for the higher estimate.

No significant changes are expected in production in southern Europe and minor-producing areas of Asia and Africa.

A summary of the above information indicates that production of Egyptian-type cotton (including American-Egyptian) in 1952-53 will be higher than that of a year ago by about 400,000 bales. Production of Asiatic types may be lower by about 300,000 bales and American-Upland (in all countries) may be down by about 0.9 million bales (includes 100,000 decrease in China).

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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WORLD COTTON TRADE IN 1951-52 UP SLIGHTLY

World cotton exports of 12.3 million bales (of 500 pounds gross) in 1951-52 were higher than in 1950-51 by about 300,000 bales or 2.5 percent. Exports from non-Communist countries were 200,000 bales higher than those of a year earlier. Increases totaling about 700,000 bales in exports to India, France, China, Spain, and Portugal more than offset decreased exports to nearly all other countries. Low stocks of cotton and a high rate of mill consumption in these countries throughout most of the year were the principal reasons for increased imports into these countries.

World cotton supplies available for export in 1951-52 (mostly from the 1951-52 crops) were higher by about 2.0 million bales than in 1950-51 and were more than adequate to meet export demand. This is in contrast with the situation in 1950-51 when tight supplies resulted in a rise in prices of foreign growths to a level more than double that of any previous year.

This high level of prices of foreign growths in 1950-51 and again late in 1951 after a brief decline in mid-1951 was probably the principal factor responsible for the rise in United States exports to 5,712,000 bales (46.6 percent of the world total) in 1951-52 from 4,280,000 bales (35.8 percent) in 1950-51 when export controls were in effect.

Exports of about 750,000 bales from the United States under the Mutual Security Agency program and about 450,000 bales under Export-Import Bank loans in 1951-52 were less than the 1.5 million bales exported with MSA funds in 1950-51 when no Bank loans were made. Most of the remaining exports of 4.5 million bales in 1951-52 were contracted during the last half of 1951 when most comparable growths of foreign cotton were priced at 20 to 25 cents a pound above the quotations for United States cotton.

Exports of cotton from most foreign countries were hindered in 1951-52 by relatively high support prices maintained by various governments and by reluctance to reduce high export taxes until 1952. Exports of foreign-grown cotton (excluding Russian and Chinese) decreased from 7.7 million bales in 1950-51 to 6.5 million in 1951-52 despite a rise of at least 1.5 million bales in the supply available for export. A subsequent decline in prices to a competitive world level (except in Brazil and Argentina) has placed these old-crop surpluses in a position for quick

COTTON: World exports by countries of origin, 1945-51

(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross weight)

Country	Year beginning August 1						
	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951 1/
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
NORTH AMERICA							
Mexico	263	204	359	232	655	742	985
United States	3,678	3,656	2,025	4,961	6,004	4,280	5,712
Others	30	12	29	29	38	46	44
Total	3,971	3,872	2,413	5,222	6,697	5,068	6,741
ASIA							
China	0	2/	0	0	0	3/ 50	-
India	848	828	704	262	214	153	122
Pakistan 4/	-	-	5/ 980	677	892	1,039	950
Iran	0	8	6	16	29	106	40
Iraq 6/	1	1	10	2	7/ 6	7/ 31	7/ 15
Turkey	2/	1	5	129	209	349	261
Syria	0	0	1	5	33	132	156
Others 8/	49	22	31	44	23	47	109
Total	898	860	1,737	1,135	1,406	1,907	1,653
SOUTH AMERICA							
Argentina	125	36	0	28	49	276	5
Brazil	1,462	1,517	1,049	955	598	697	338
Paraguay	71	38	33	27	48	55	49
Peru	433	331	263	217	264	321	301
Others	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Total	2,091	1,922	1,345	1,227	959	1,351	693
AFRICA							
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	280	249	255	325	325	371	398
Angola	30	23	22	12	27	23	20
Belgian Congo 6/	171	217	200	235	7/ 217	7/ 215	7/ 187
British East Africa	6/ 269	6/ 212	235	336	372	350	340
Egypt	862	1,482	1,577	1,692	1,640	1,532	908
French Equatorial Africa	85	86	127	110	6/ 108	120	126
French West Africa	11	8	3	4	11	5	7
Mozambique	129	80	130	103	120	112	130
Nigeria	15	31	29	36	60	75	60
Others	2	2	2	2	6	15	20
Total	1,854	2,390	2,580	2,855	2,886	2,818	2,196
Other countries 9/	400	450	675	600	650	807	971
World total	9,214	9,494	8,750	11,039	12,598	11,951	12,254

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than 500 bales. 3/ Based on Chinese press reports of "large shipments" to the Soviet Union. 4/ Reported separately for the first time in 1947-48. 5/ Includes about 230,000 bales of exports from Pakistan to India. In earlier years this movement was internal trade. To this extent Asia and world totals in 1947-48 are not comparable with earlier years. 6/ Calendar year. 7/ Crop year. 8/ Mostly Burma. 9/ Mostly U.S.S.R.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

sale during the current season. In fact, recent reports indicate that nearly all of the old-crop surpluses in Mexico, Pakistan, Turkey, Peru, Sudan, East Africa, and possibly other countries has been sold since about July 1, 1952.

These late-season sales together with large new crops being harvested and evidence of a gradual rise in mill consumption from recent low levels in most countries indicate a possibility for some increase in world cotton export trade in 1952-53.

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26

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OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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WORLD COTTON STOCKS UP 25 PERCENT

World cotton stocks on July 31, 1952, estimated at 14.4 million bales (of 500 pounds gross except United States stocks which are in running bales), are about 25 percent higher than the 11.5 million bales in stocks a year ago but 14 percent less than the 16.8 million bales on hand two years ago. Stocks in Southern Hemisphere countries are calculated midseason stocks (including unginned cotton) one to three months after harvest was completed.

In contrast to the situation a year ago the exporting countries hold most of the uncommitted stocks and the importing countries, with the exception of India, hold stocks that are normal or slightly below normal levels. Stocks in the exporting countries, estimated at 7.9 million bales in July 1952, are 2.3 million bales or 40 percent higher than the exceptionally low stocks on hand a year ago. Stocks in the nonproducing and deficit-producing countries, estimated at 6.1 million bales, are 0.5 million bales higher than those of a year ago with India accounting for all of the increase. Increases in other countries of this group, especially the United Kingdom, China, Spain, and Sweden, were offset in the aggregate by decreases in other importing countries principally Japan, Italy, Germany, and France.

The largest stock increase (about 700,000 bales) among the exporting countries is in Brazil where the government's price-support program in effect since last April has resulted in the purchase by the Bank of Brazil of practically the entire export surplus at prices 12 to 13 cents a pound above the current prices of United States cotton of comparable quality. In Argentina, stocks are up by 117,000 bales for the same reason except that prices paid by the government in support of the market are considerably higher than in Brazil. The price for Type D, the principal export type, is equivalent to about 60 United States cents a pound. The increase of nearly 500,000 bales in United States stocks was primarily the result of a large 1951 crop, as exports and consumption compared favorably with the totals for recent years.

The increase of nearly 500,000 bales in the stocks in Egypt may be attributed to an exceptionally small export volume in 1951-52 resulting mainly from relatively high prices during most of the season and from political disturbances affecting trade with the United Kingdom. Increases

COTTON: Estimated world stocks, by principal countries, July 31, 1952, with comparisons 1/

(In bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country	Stocks on hand July 31			
	1939	1950	1951	1952
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Surplus countries				
Mexico 2/	150	85	66	171
United States 3/	13,033	6,846	2,278	2,745
Iran	40	33	10	25
Pakistan	–	140	178	350
Turkey	70	80	50	200
Argentina	243	665	414	531
Brazil	661	692	725	1,440
Paraguay	11	36	18	23
Peru	200	178	160	205
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	107	138	209	96
Belgian Congo	150	148	97	94
British East Africa	75	81	70	102
Egypt 4/	325	484	426	892
French Equatorial Africa	15	123	92	111
Others 5/	1,055	821	841	931
Total surplus countries	16,135	10,550	5,634	7,916
Deficit countries				
Canada	56	61	70	56
Cuba	10	4	4	4
Belgium	150	135	114	118
France	700	495	313	265
Western Germany	6/	282	167	111
Italy	250	395	420	352
Netherlands	80	98	72	51
Spain	50	8	16	44
Sweden	60	55	60	89
Switzerland	100	75	88	88
United Kingdom	1,045	1,403	1,228	1,282
China, incl. Manchuria 7/	900	300	250	450
India 7/8/	2,165	1,380	1,600	2,100
Japan	556	300	675	514
Korea 7/	43	17	18	28
Colombia	5	67	47	41
Australia	20	21	26	31
Others 9/	875	551	479	496
Total deficit countries	7,065	5,647	5,647	6,120
Afloat 10/	550	630	265	403
World total	23,750	16,827	11,546	14,439

1/ Estimates for Southern Hemisphere countries include unginned cotton on hand at the end of July. 2/ Stocks on June 30 (Mexican crop year). 3/ Running bales. 4/ Includes cotton already shipped but not cleared through customs, amounting to 51,000 bales in 1950, 23,000 in 1951, and 168,000 in 1952. 5/ Mostly U.S.S.R., Mozambique, and Nigeria. 6/ Included with "Others." 7/ Includes estimates for noncommercial stocks; all China figures subject to revision. 8/ Includes Pakistan prior to partition in August 1947. 9/ Mostly countries in Europe and South America not listed above. 10/ Estimated.

of about 175,000 bales in Pakistan, 150,000 in Turkey, and 105,000 in Mexico may be attributed to the fact that prices at which these cottons were offered during most of the 1951-52 season remained above those for United States cotton.

In general, the higher stocks in exporting countries and the slightly reduced stocks in importing countries (principal exceptions are India, China, and the United Kingdom) may be attributed to efforts in the foreign producing countries to maintain relatively high price levels after mill consumption and purchases in the importing countries began a period of decline early in 1952. Prices of foreign growths, however, are now down to a competitive level with United States prices and most of the exportable stocks of old-crop cotton in Pakistan, Turkey, Mexico, and several smaller producing countries are reported to have been sold for export in recent months.

The cotton stock positions and consumption outlook (moderate increases) in importing countries and the adequate supply, together with relatively low prices of cotton in nearly all exporting countries, suggest that the importing countries may avail themselves of the opportunity to build up stocks somewhat at currently attractive prices.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural developments approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

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